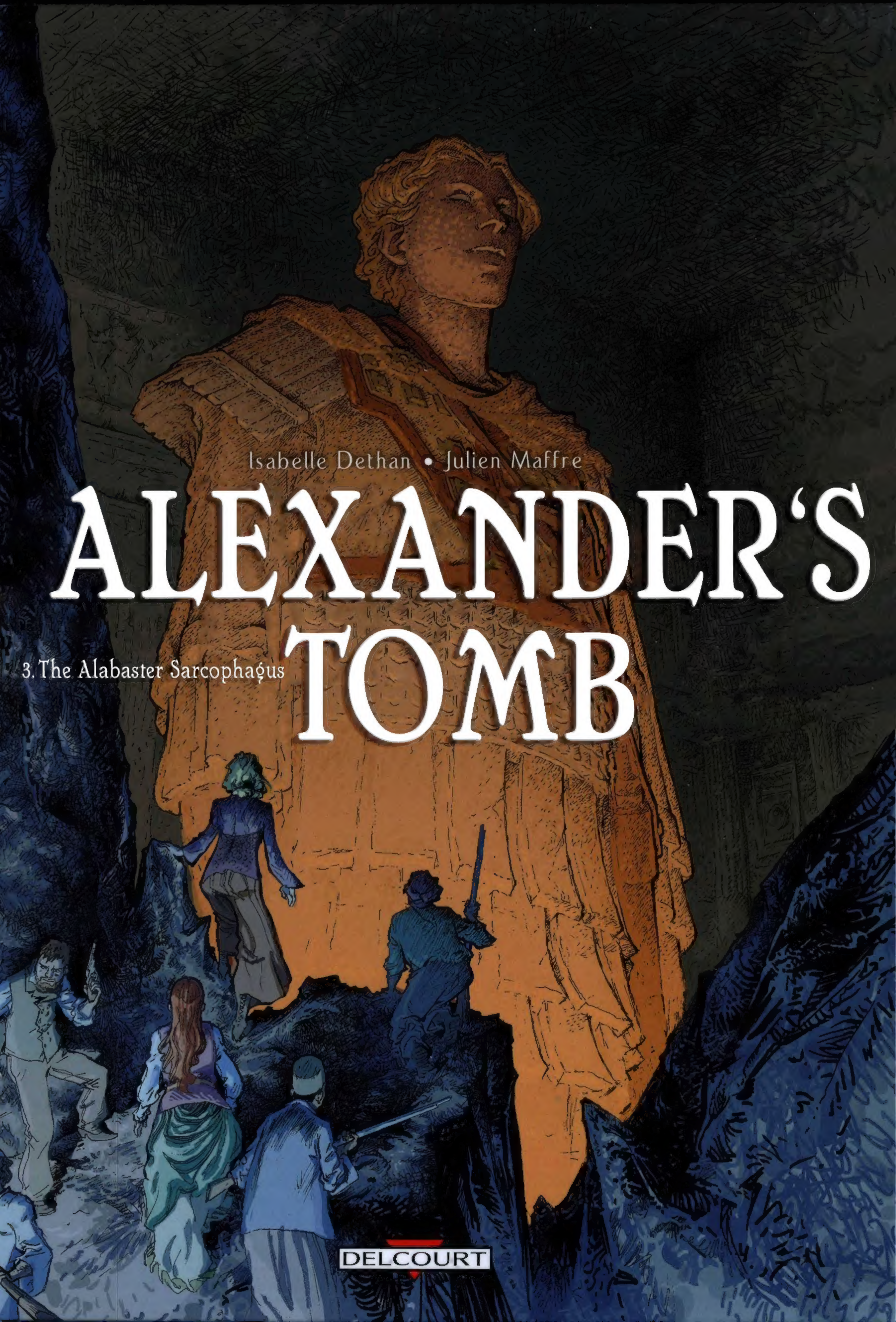




Isabelle Dethan • Julien Maffre

ALEXANDER'S TOMB

3. The Alabaster Sarcophagus

DEL COURT



ALEXANDER'S TOMB

3. The Alabaster Sarcophagus



Story

Isabelle Dethan

Art

Julien Maffre

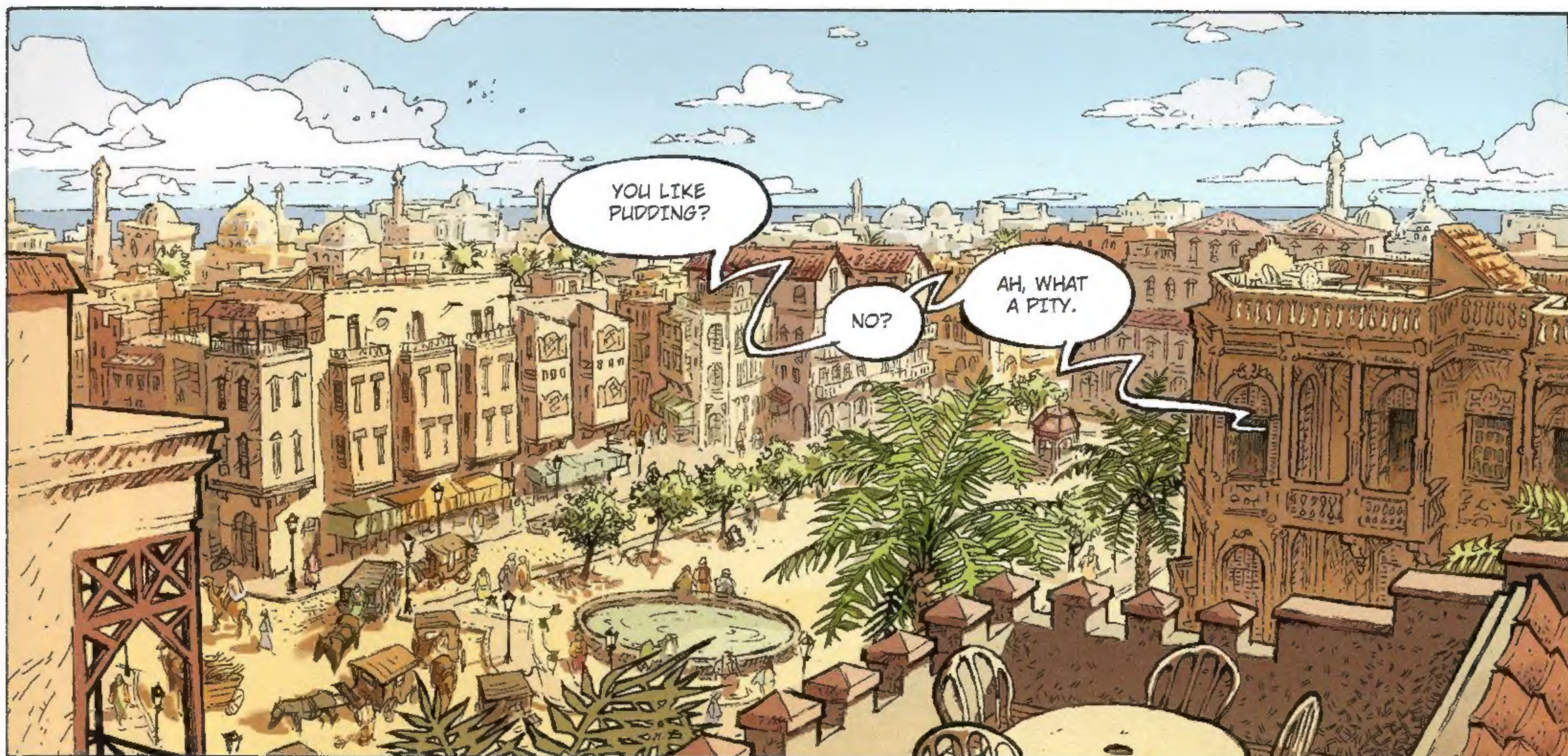
Colours

Lauren Durandelle

Translation & Retext

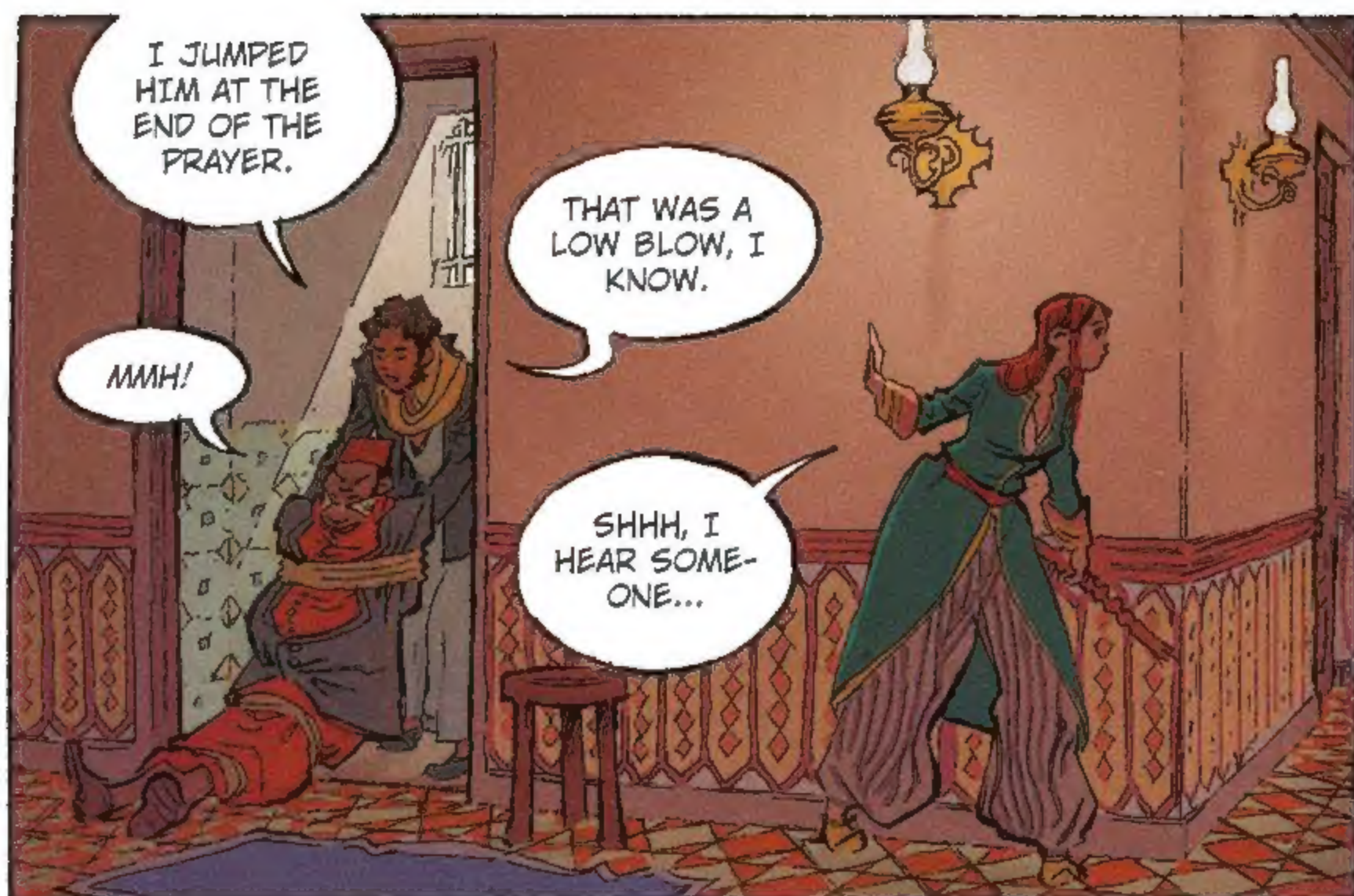
Sosich

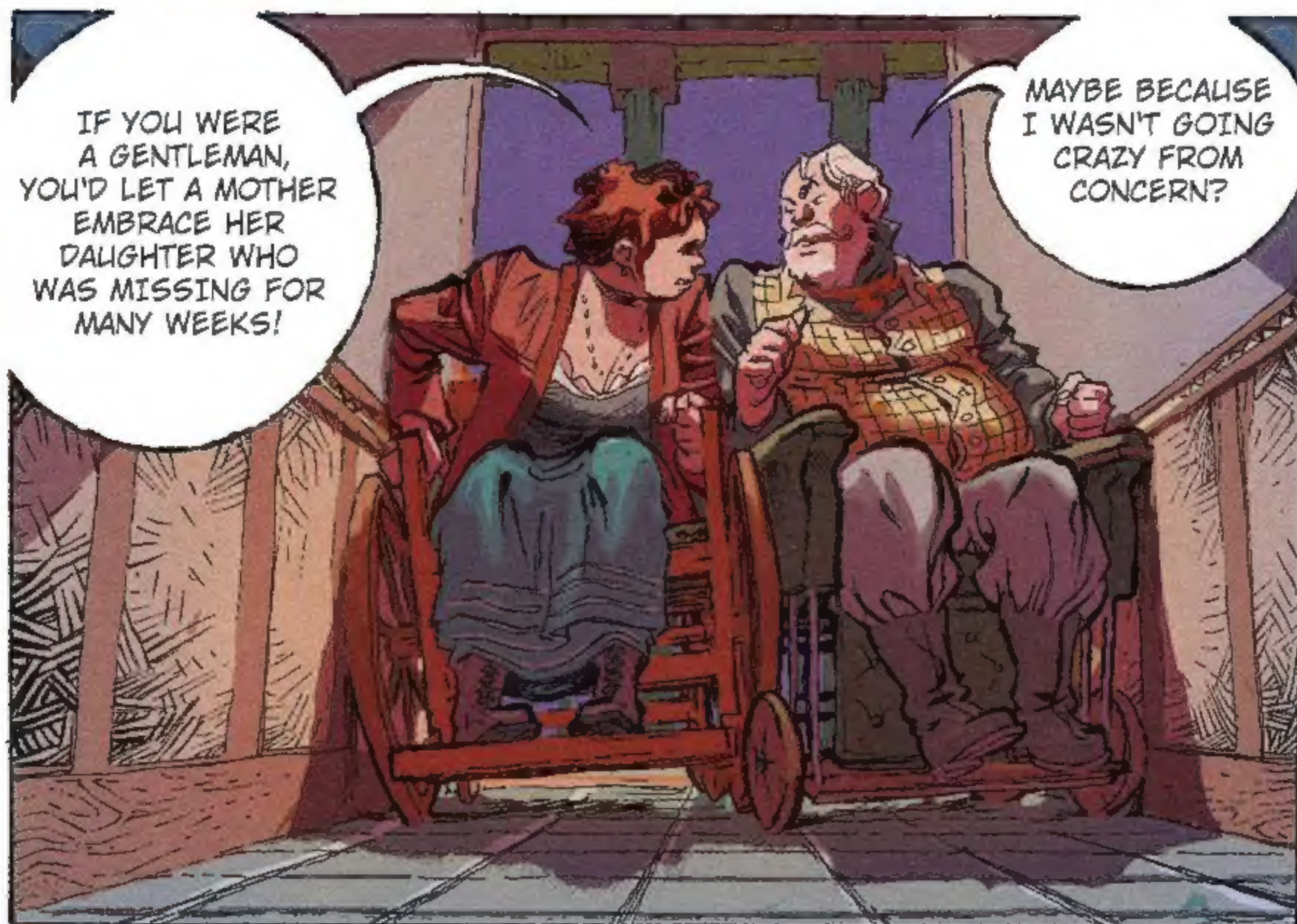




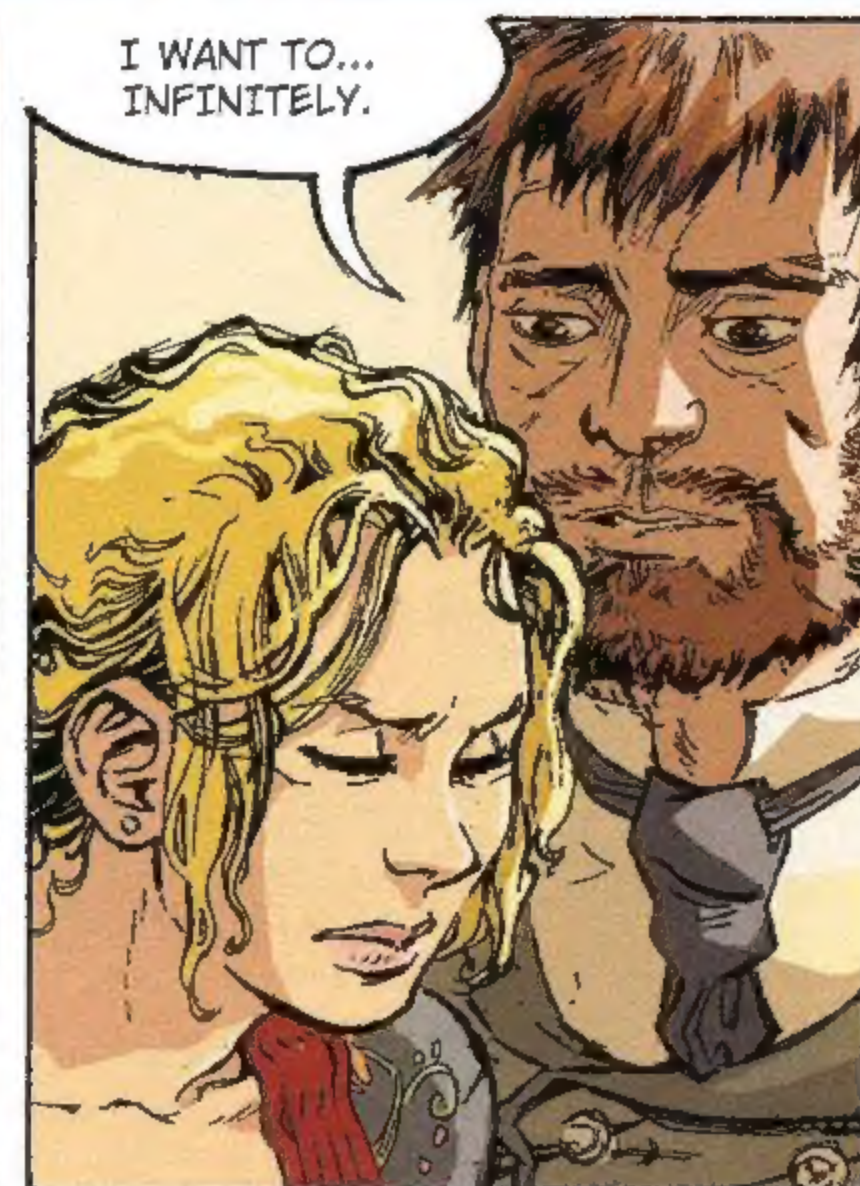
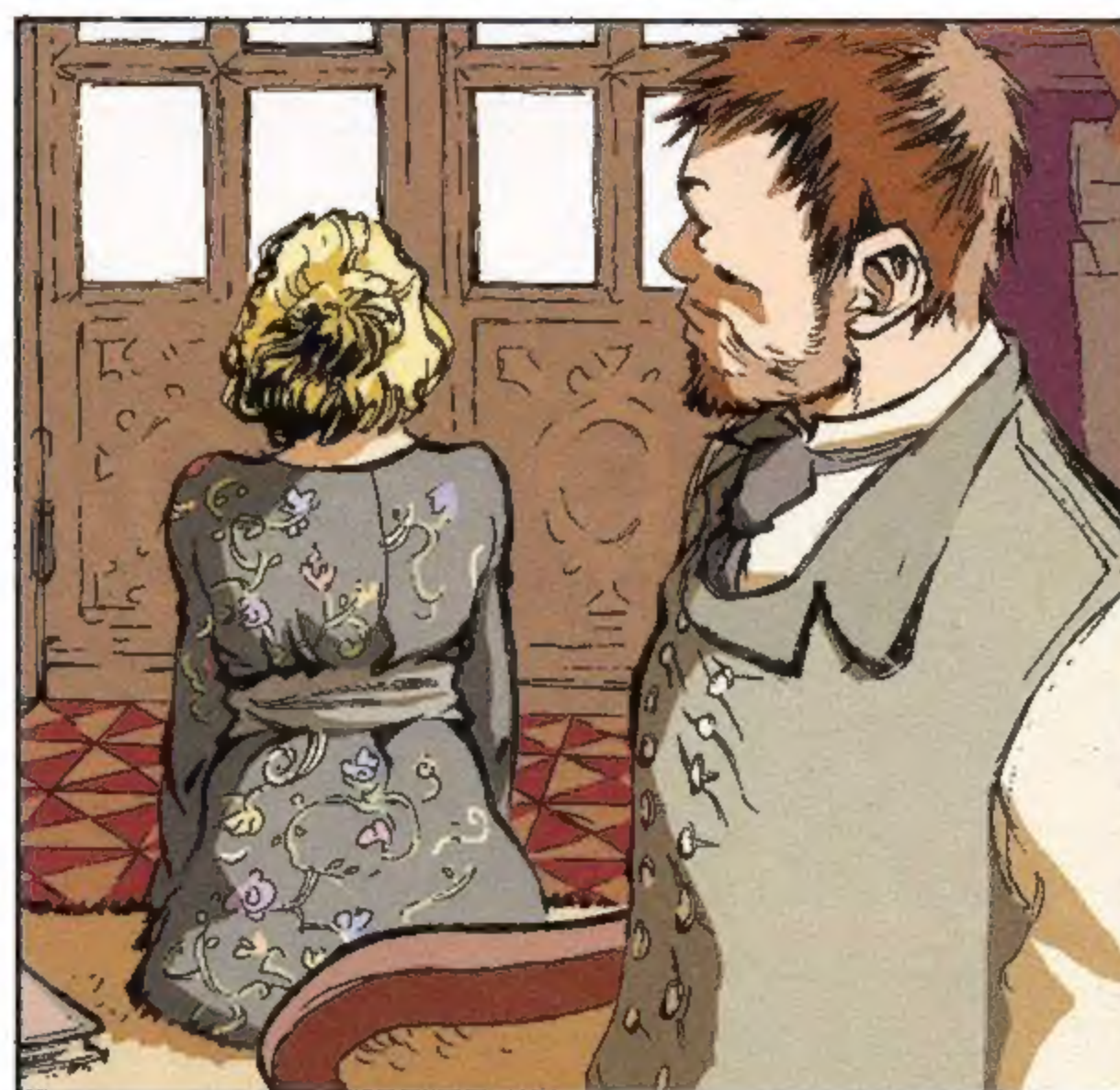


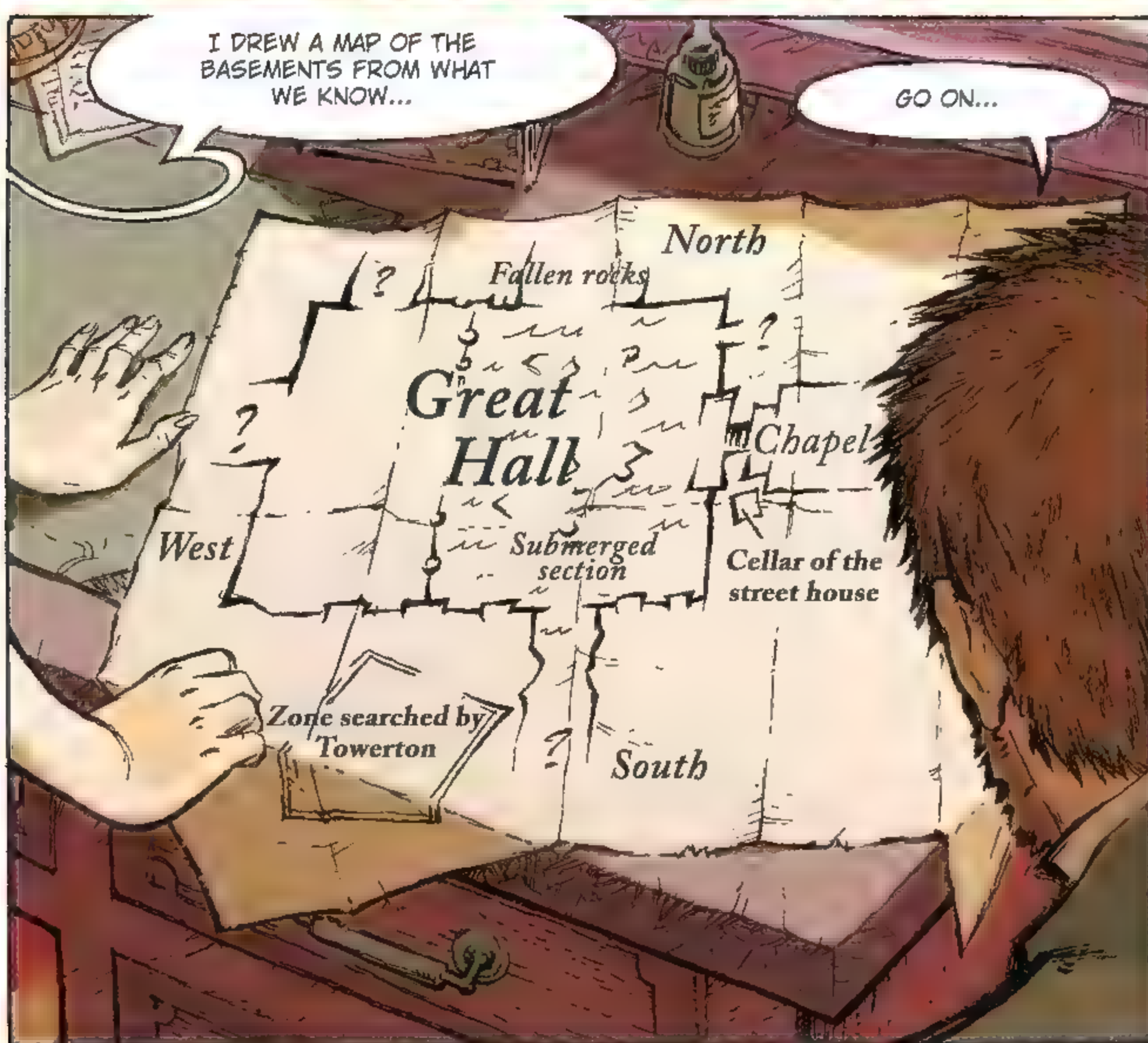
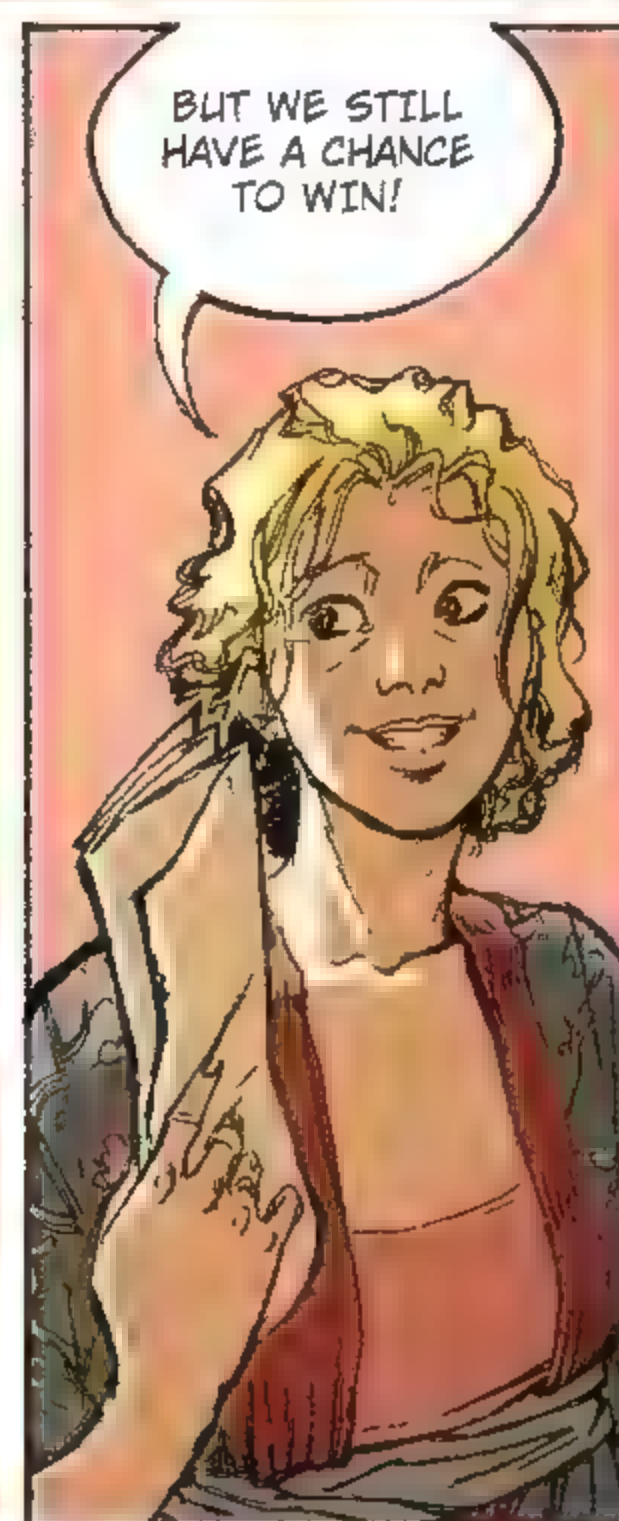


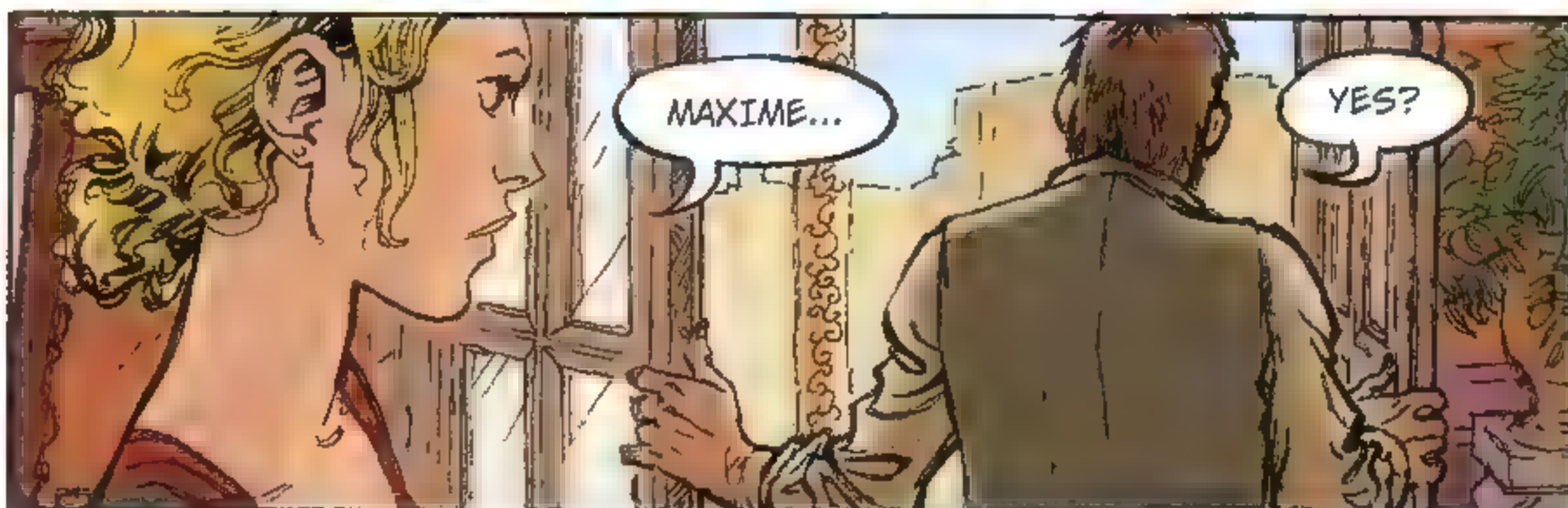


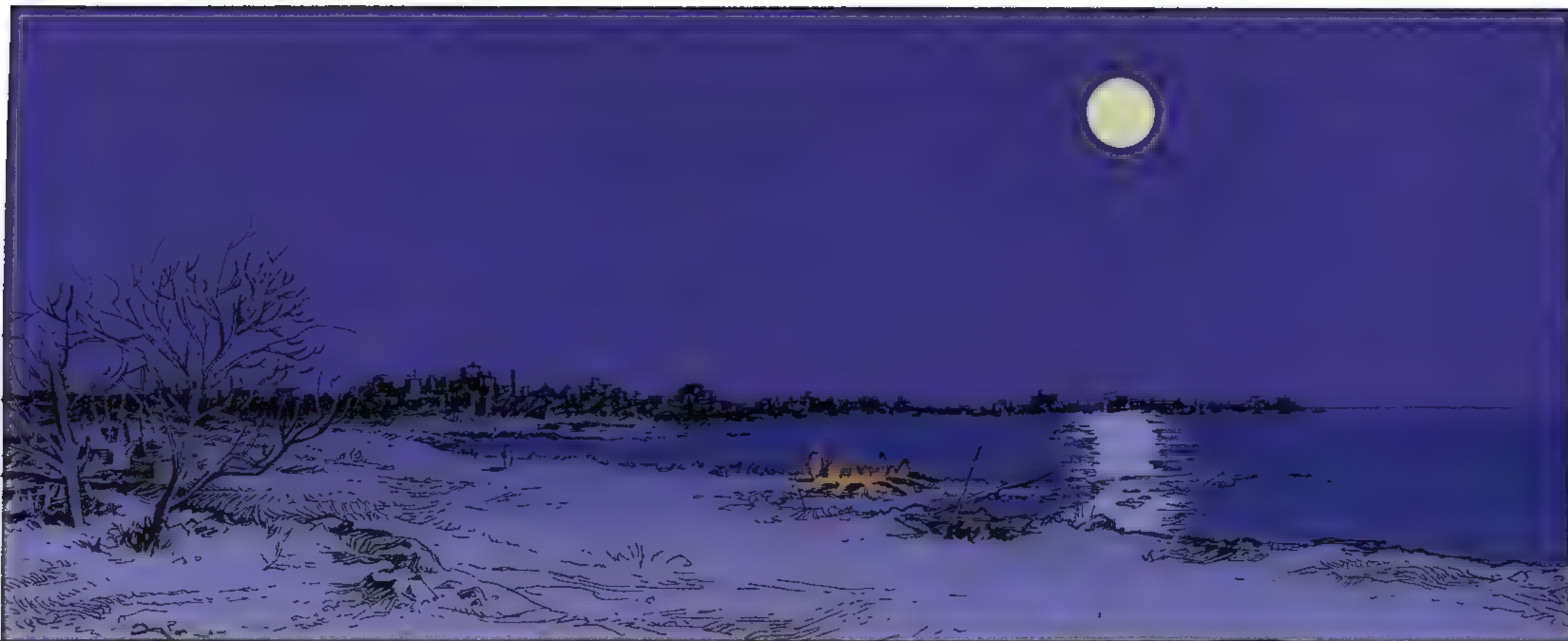












LAZARUS! WE WAITED ONLY FOR YOU!



WELL?! WHY DID YOU WANT TO SEE US TONIGHT AT ALL COSTS?

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

SOLIMAN...



YOU'VE CONTACTED OUR ASSOCIATE?

IT'S DONE. HE SEEMS VERY INTERESTED.



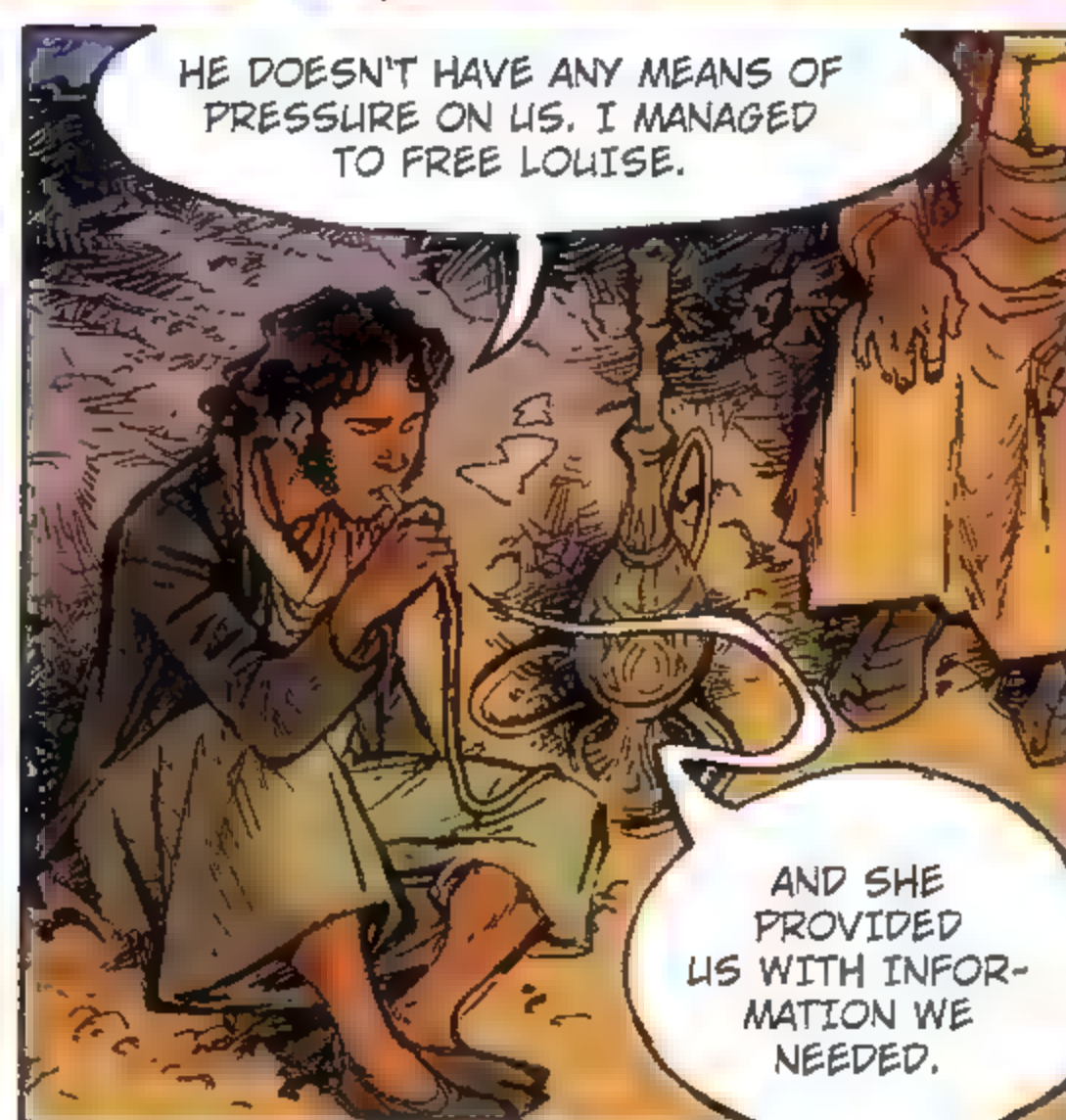
HE'S IN NEGOTIATIONS WITH PASHA. I BELIEVE THIS WILL GO THROUGH, THE RUMOUR HAS IT THAT HE'S IN VICEROY'S FAVORS. HE'S INTERESTED IN EVERYTHING THAT WILL BE FOUND.



PERFECT. BECAUSE EVERYTHING IS ACCELERATING. WE'LL RESUME EXCAVATIONS TOMORROW MORNING AT DAWN. AND THIS TIME WE KNOW WHERE WE'RE GOING.

IT IS SAID THAT TOWERTON HAS JUST PURCHASED A LARGE QUANTITY OF EXPLOSIVES...

THAT'S NOT GOOD...



HE DOESN'T HAVE ANY MEANS OF PRESSURE ON US. I MANAGED TO FREE LOUISE.

AND SHE PROVIDED US WITH INFORMATION WE NEEDED.



I GUESS TOWERTON FEELS CORNERED IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, HE WANTS TO PUSH THE MOVEMENT.

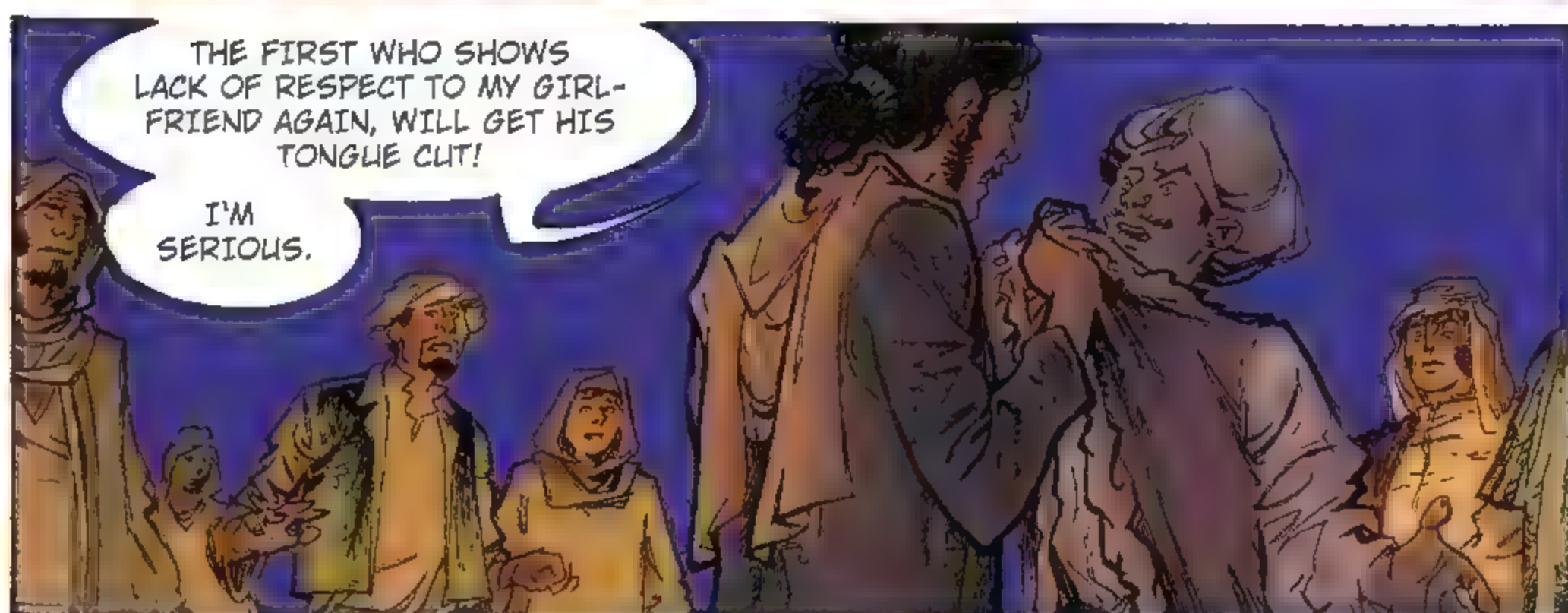


HE HE! IT SEEMS HIS LOUISE IS SABA'S HEIRESS. LAZARUS WON'T BE BORED!

TOWERTON NEITHER...



!!



THE FIRST WHO SHOWS LACK OF RESPECT TO MY GIRLFRIEND AGAIN, WILL GET HIS TONGUE CUT!

I'M SERIOUS.

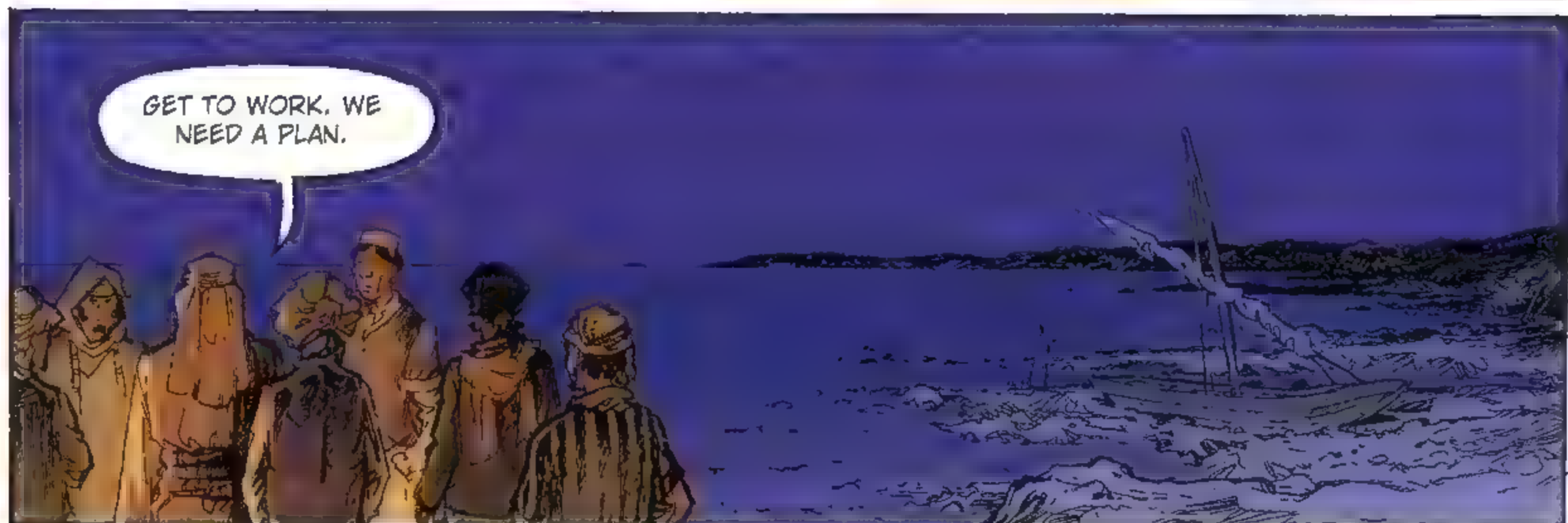


AGREED. THAT'S FAIR.



NOW, BOGHOS, YOU CLOSE YOUR MOUTH, AND OTHERS TOO.

WE HAVE A TREASURE TO RECOVER AND TWO TEAMS OF ARCHAEOLOGISTS TO FOOL.

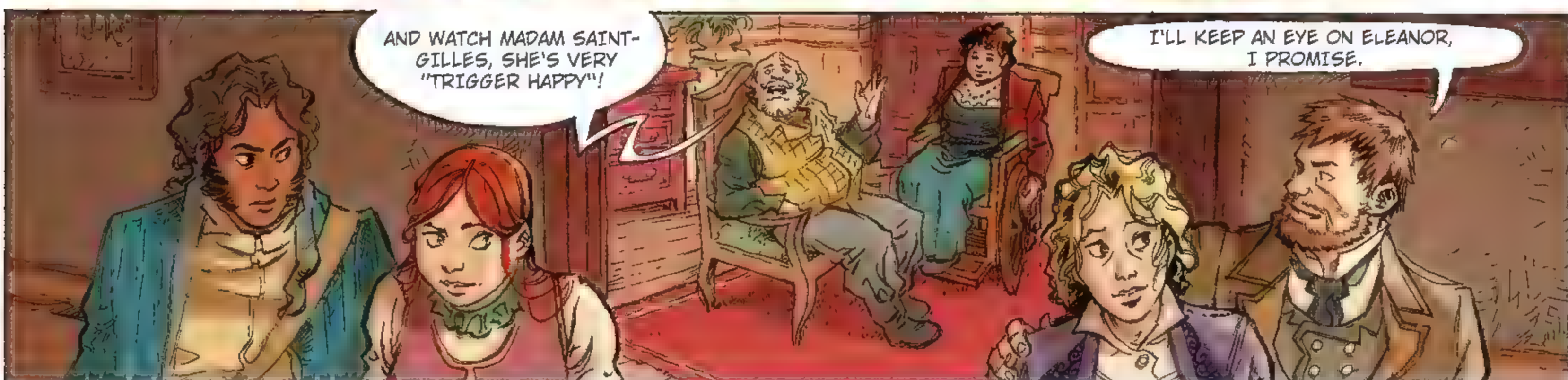
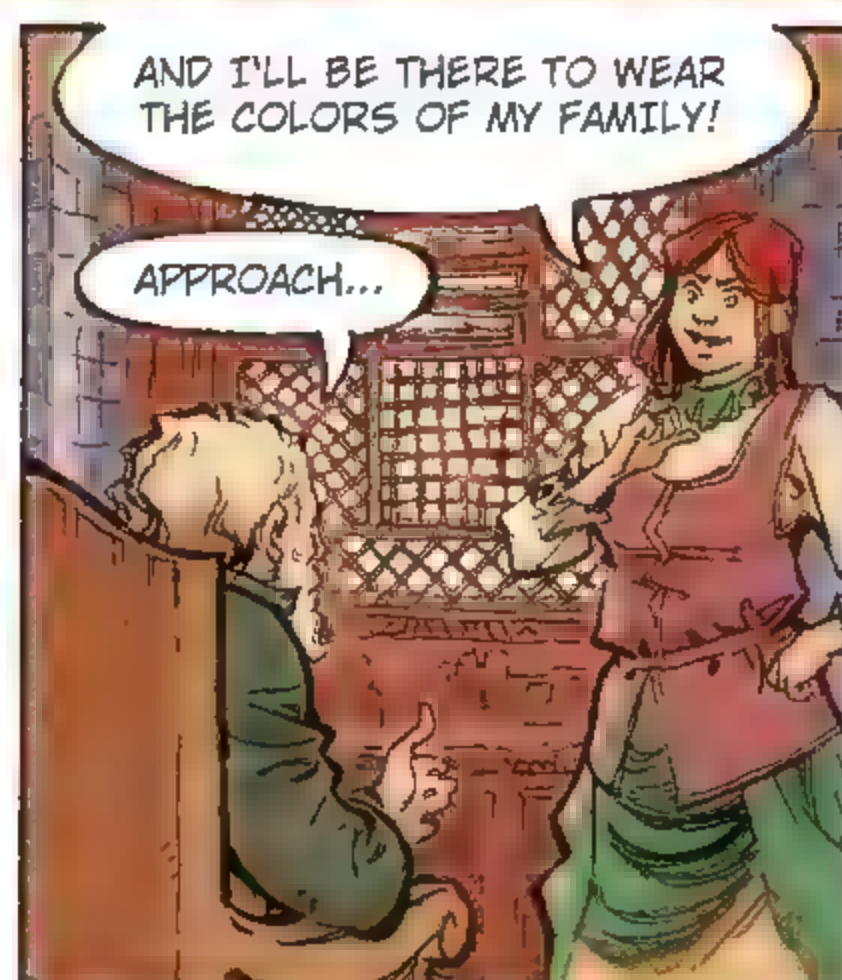
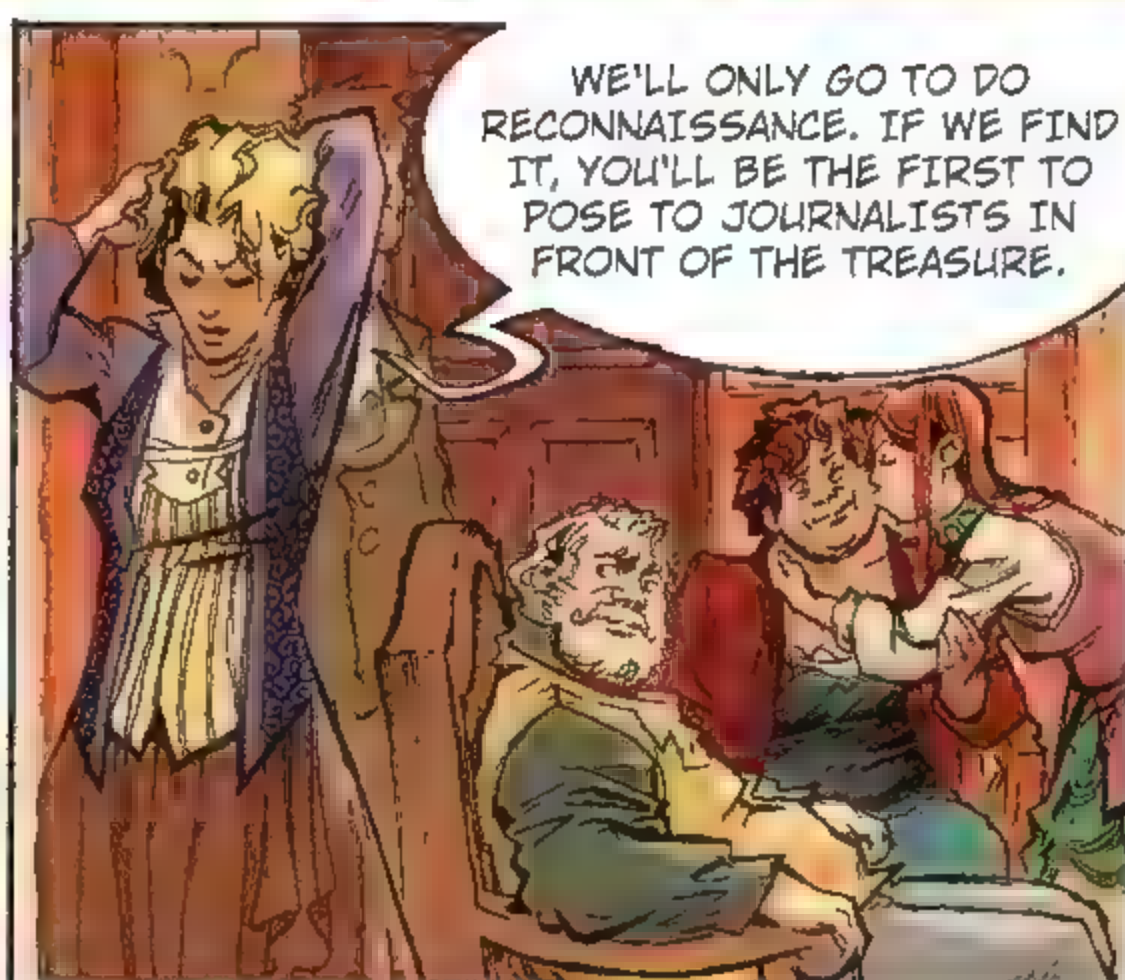
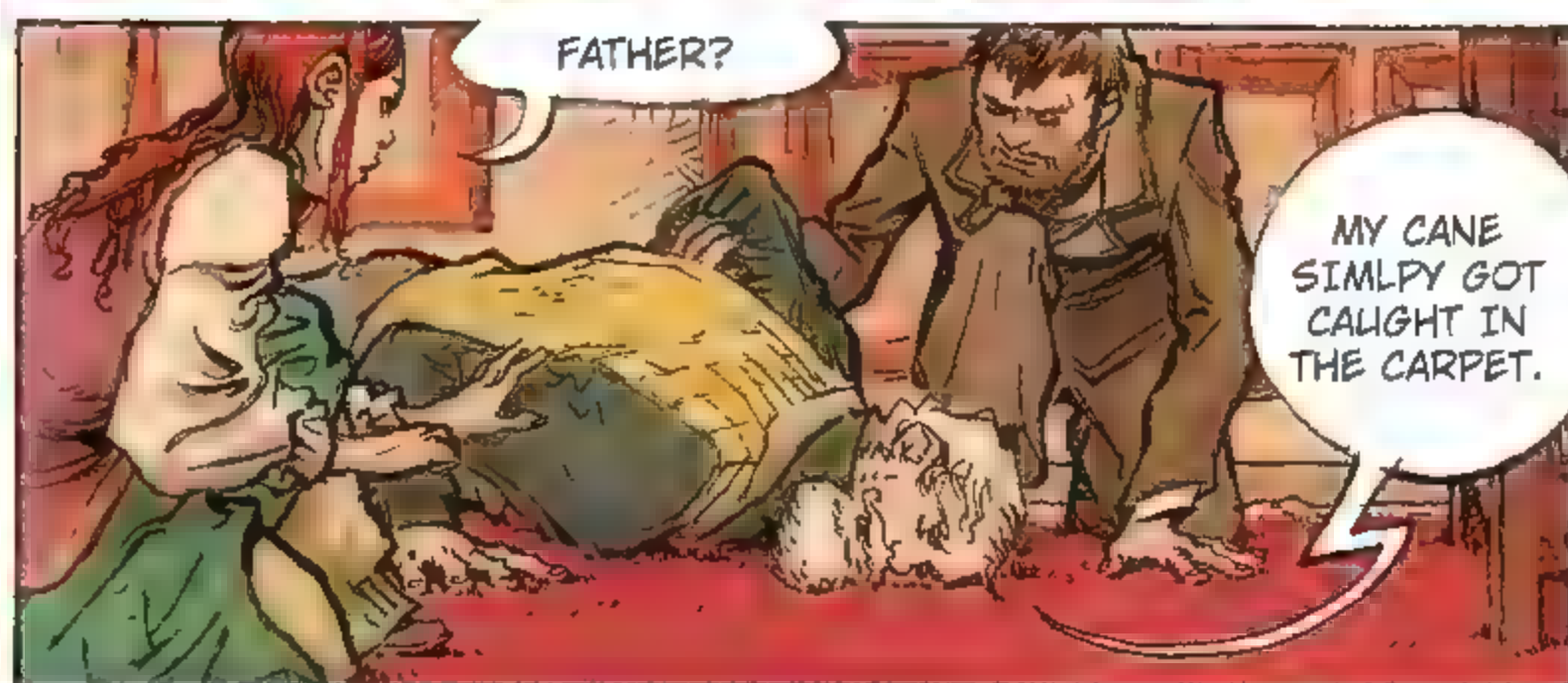
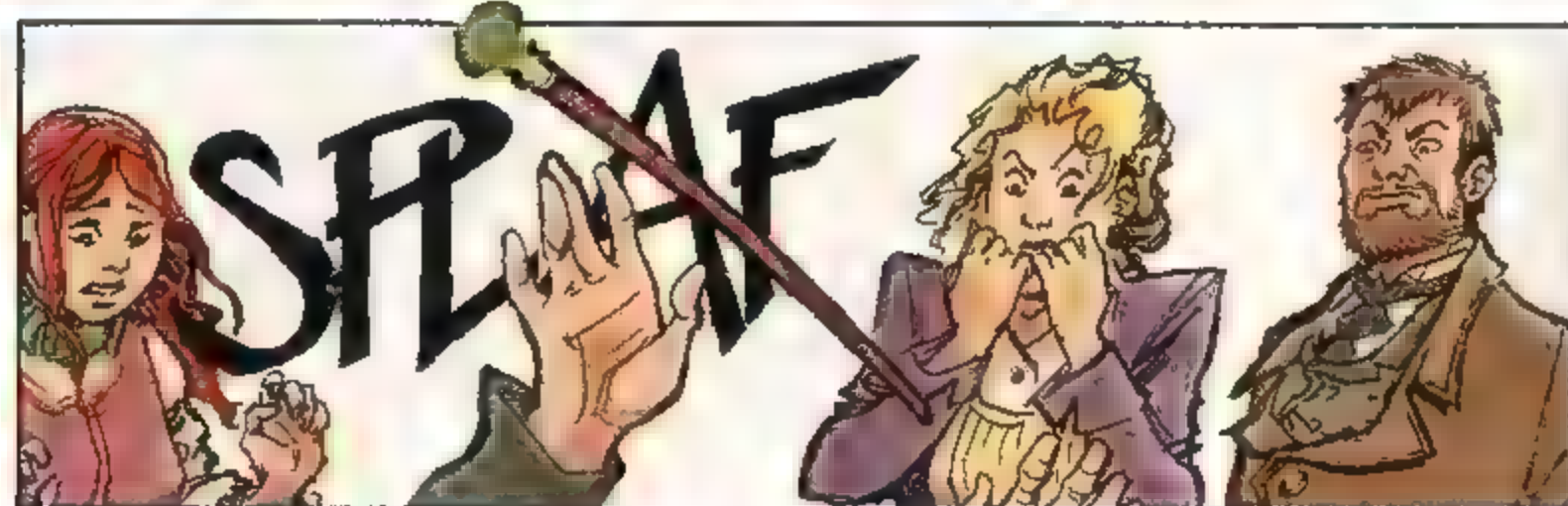


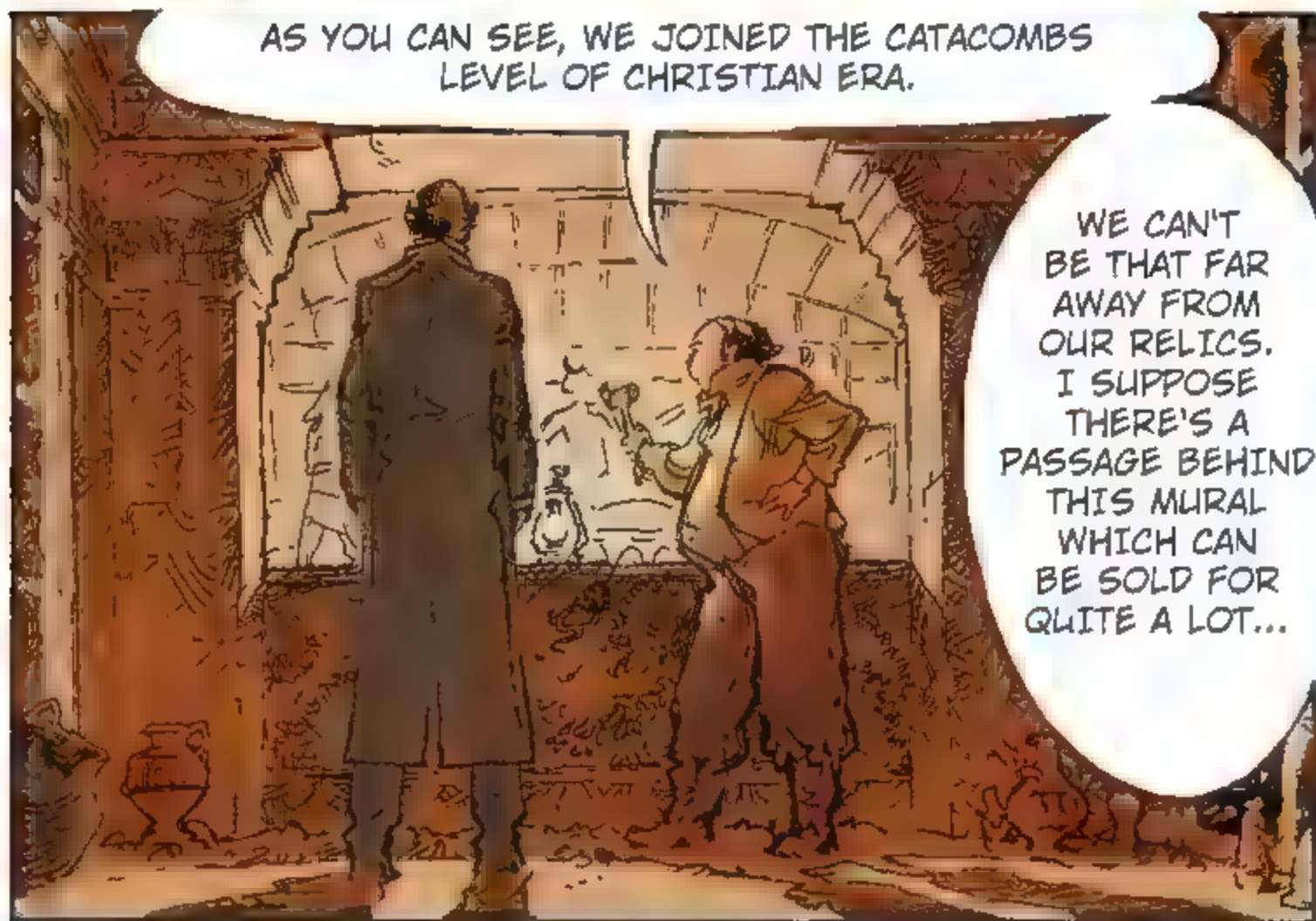
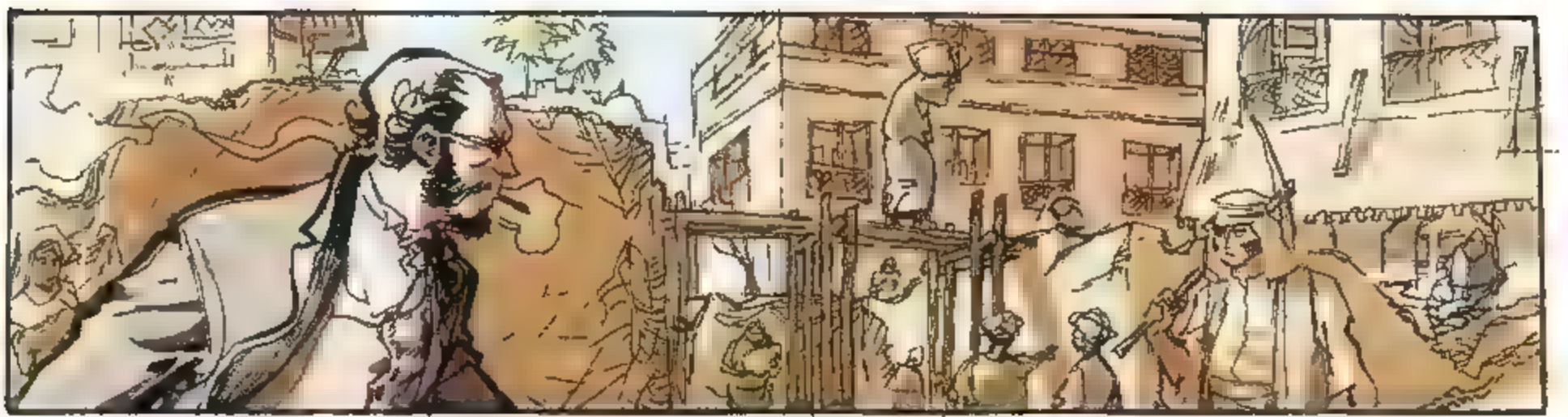
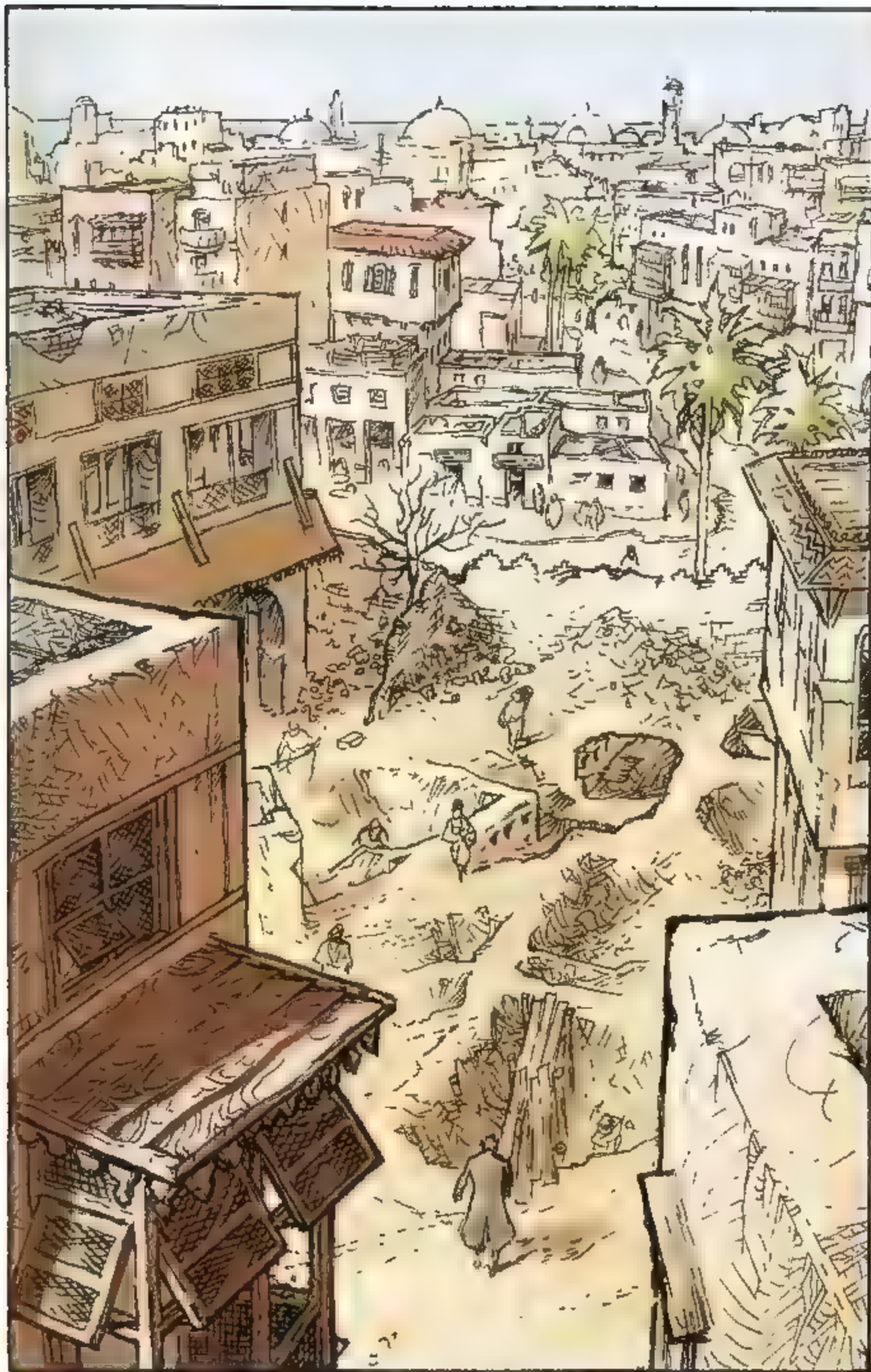
GET TO WORK. WE NEED A PLAN.

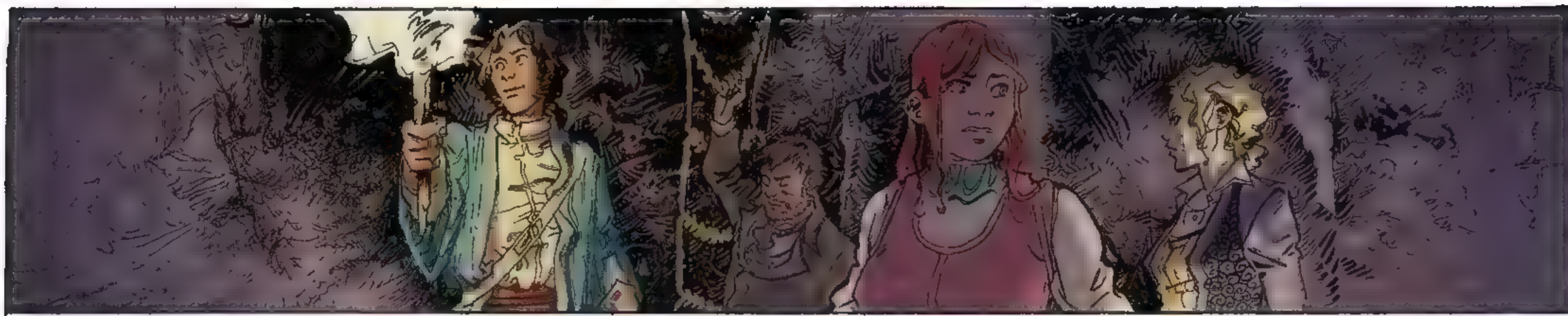


THEY SAY SOME INTERESTING THINGS.

YES, THE BOSS WILL BE HAPPY.







CAN YOU ALL SWIM?



YES. OF COURSE.

YES, NO PROBLEM.



ER... A LITTLE.



A LITTLE? THAT'S NOT ENOUGH. AND FORGIVE ME, BUT HOW DID YOU EXPECT TO FOLLOW US? IN A BOAT? WE CAN'T BRING ONE HERE AT THE MOMENT, IT WOULDN'T PASS THE OPENING BEHIND THE MUMMY...



OH, STEP DOWN FROM YOUR GREAT HORSE, MAXIME!!!



MAYBE I HAVE A SOLUTION.



WHERE ARE YOU GOING?



BRR... IT'S COLD.

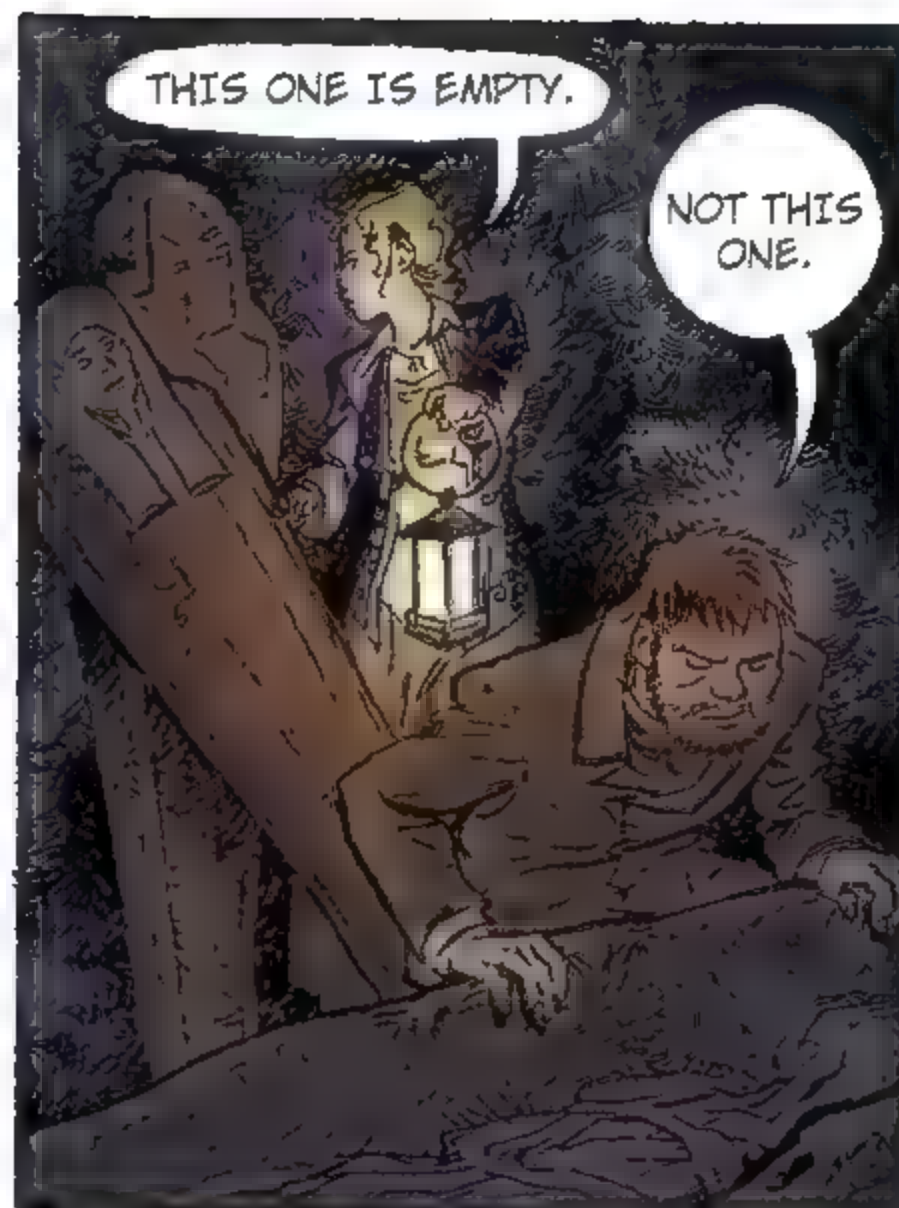
YES. I ALREADY FELL INSIDE. AND IT'S SALTY.

AND I DON'T SEE THE END OF THIS WATER FROM HERE.



FINE. THIS COULD WORK.

OR I SWIM.



THIS ONE IS EMPTY.

NOT THIS ONE.



ER... YOU'LL SWIM IN YOUR PETTICOAT?

NO, IT WILL BOTHER ME...

JUST IN YOUR LACE PANTIES? IN FRONT OF MAXIME?!

UNDERWEAR WILL BECOME TRANSPARENT IN THE WATER!

LAZARUS WON'T HAVE TO GET WORRIED ABOUT YOUR VIRTUE, MY DEAR, AND YOU WON'T HAVE TO DIP YOUR TOE IN THIS LAKE.



IT FLOATS!

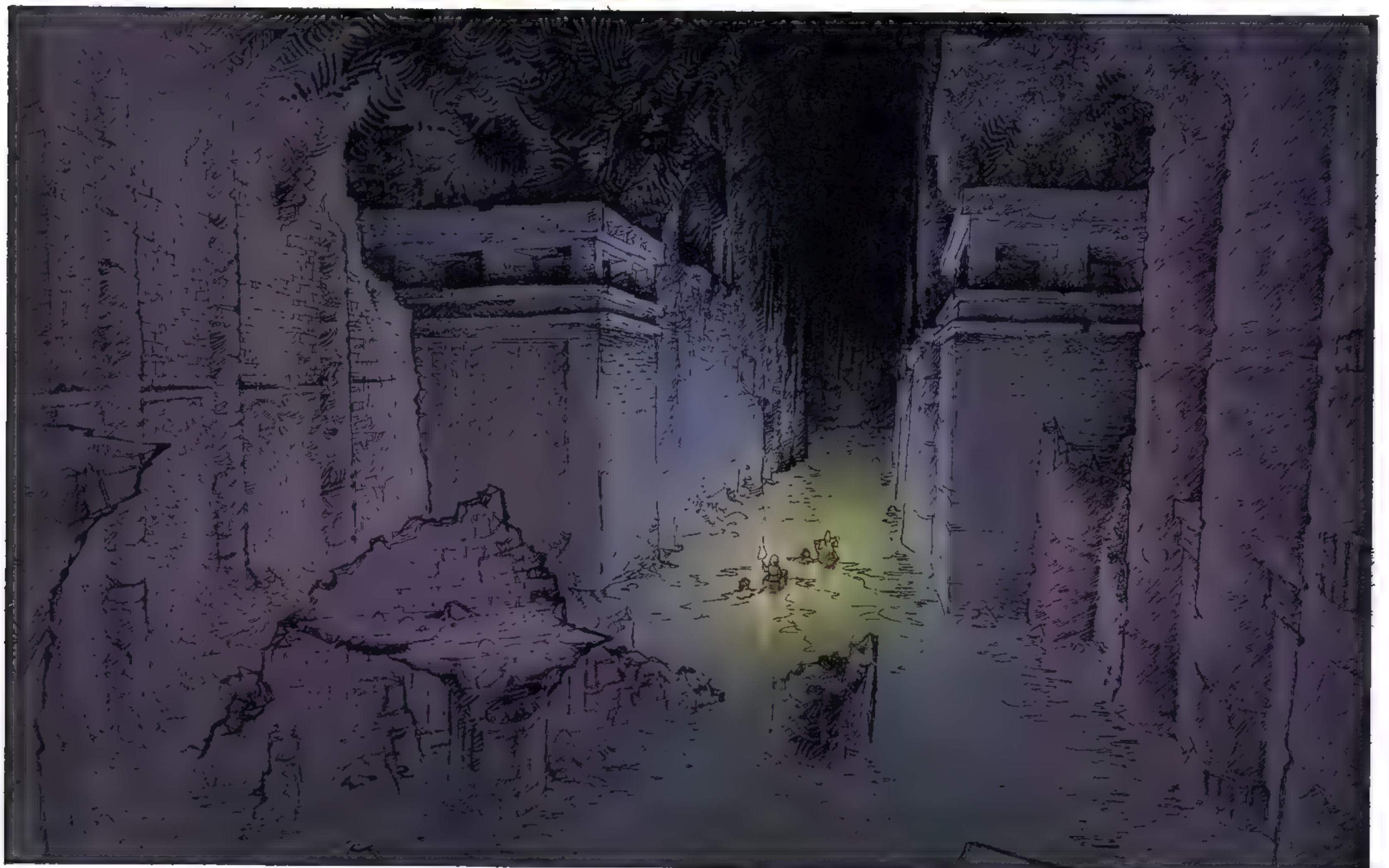
A... A SARCOPHAGUS?!

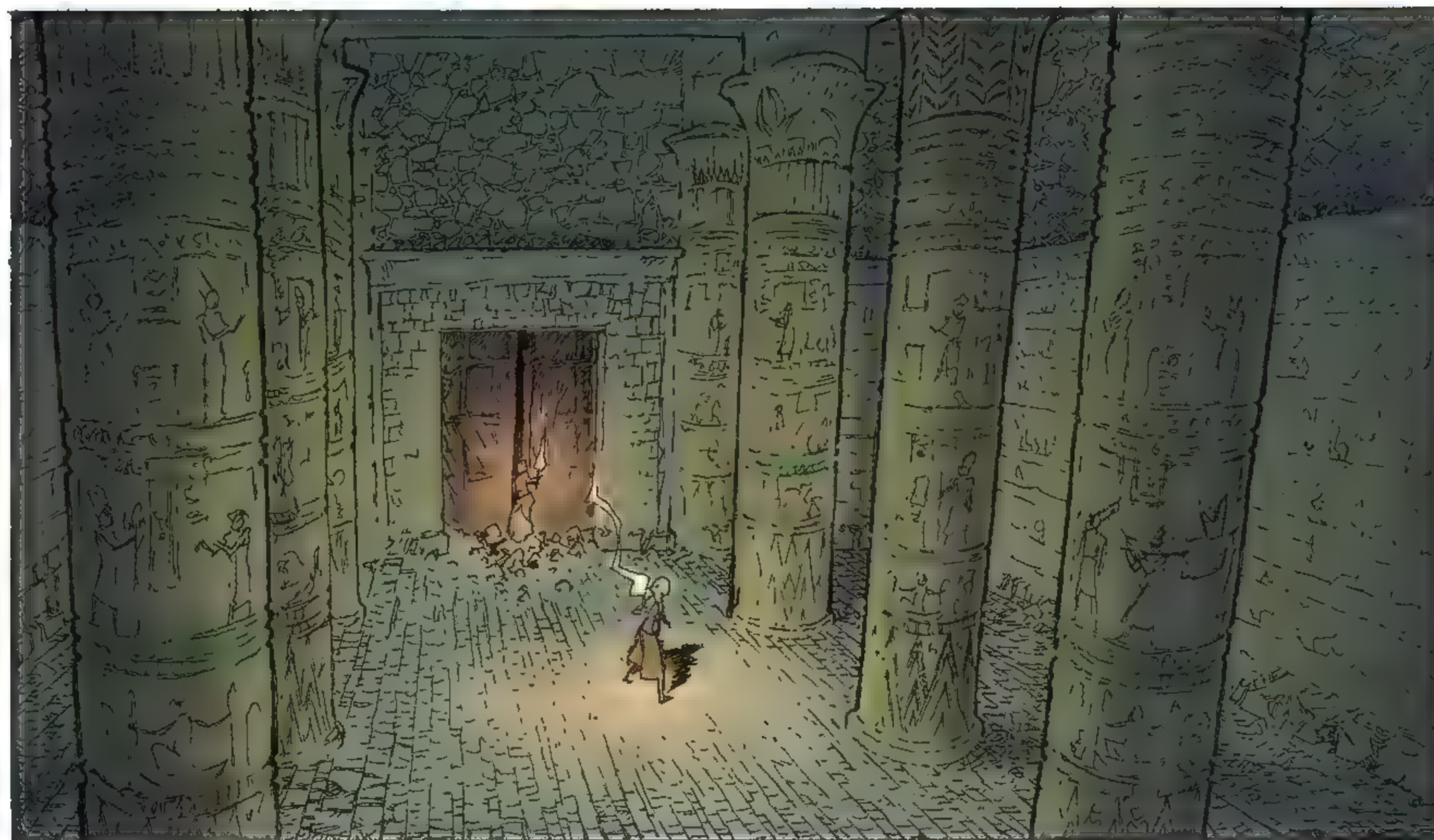
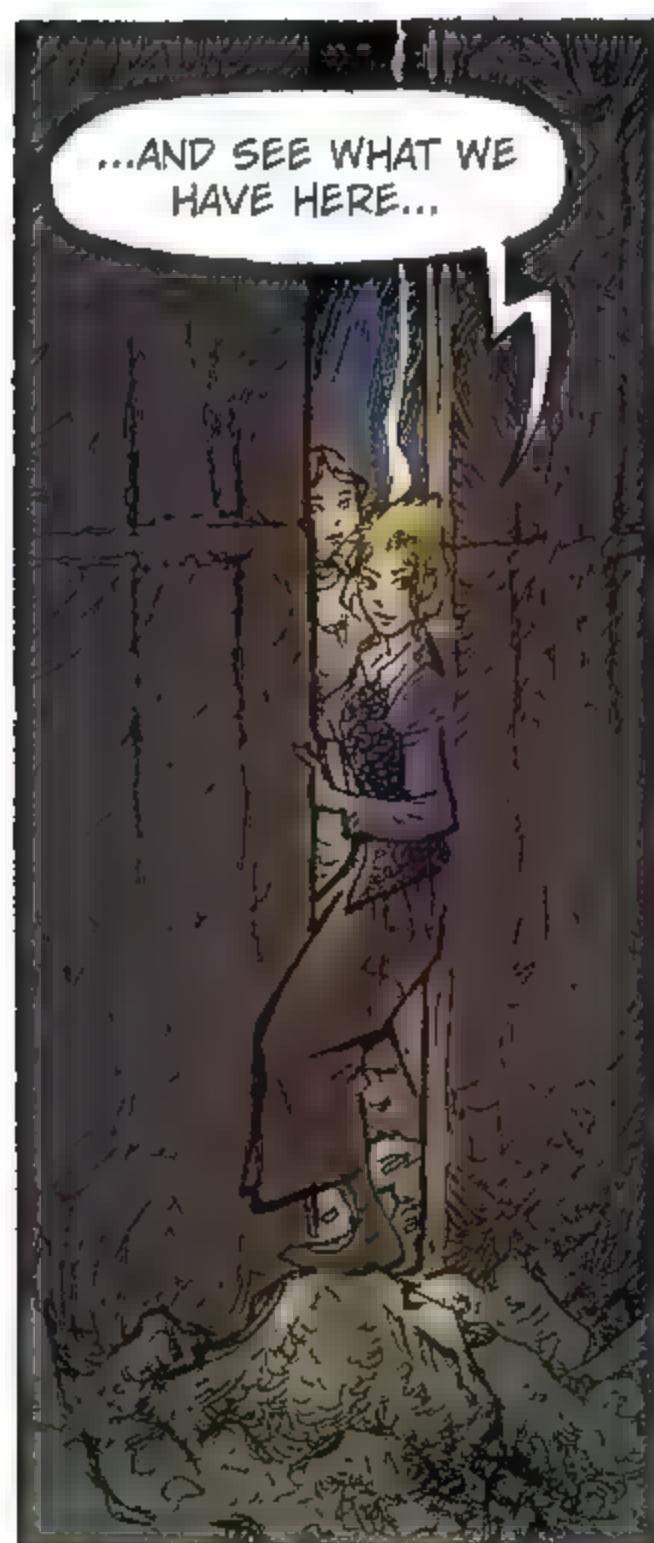
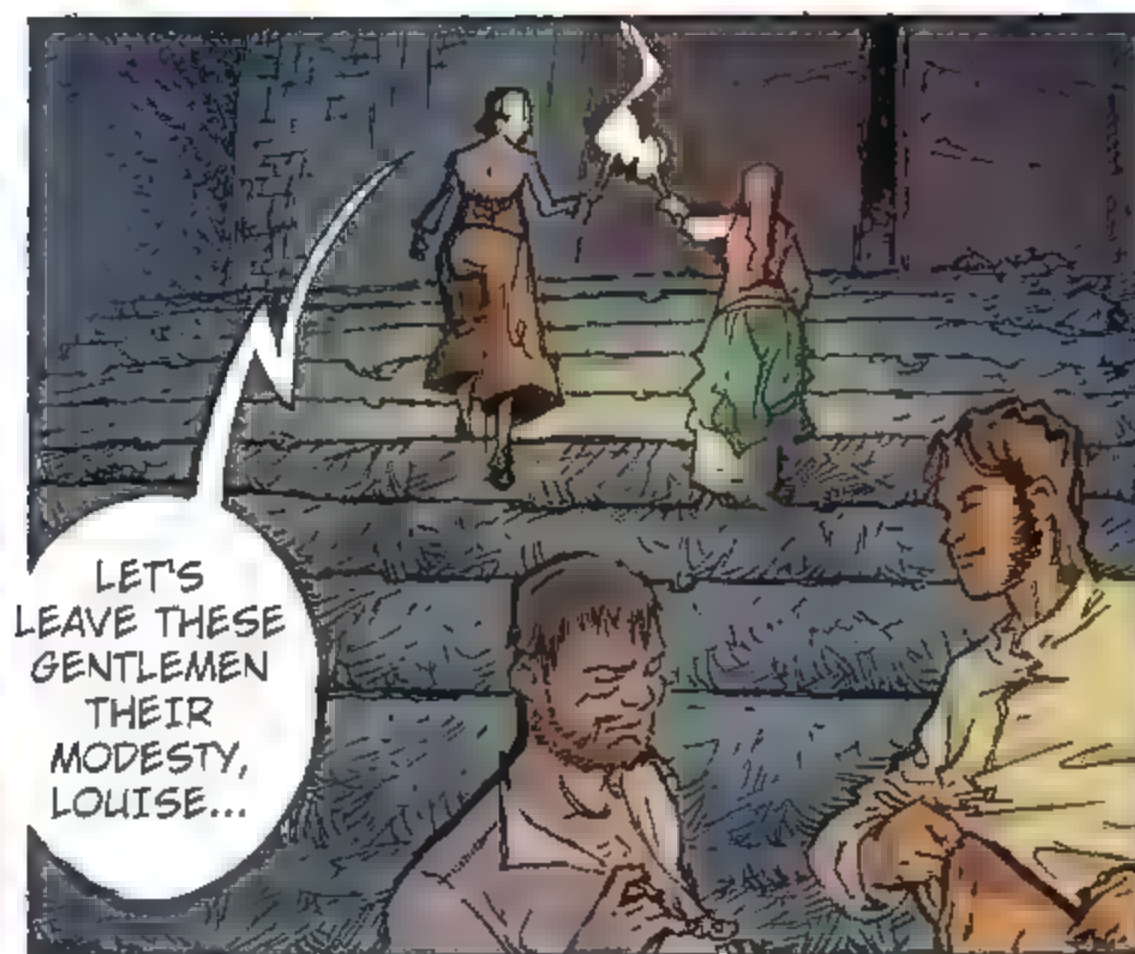
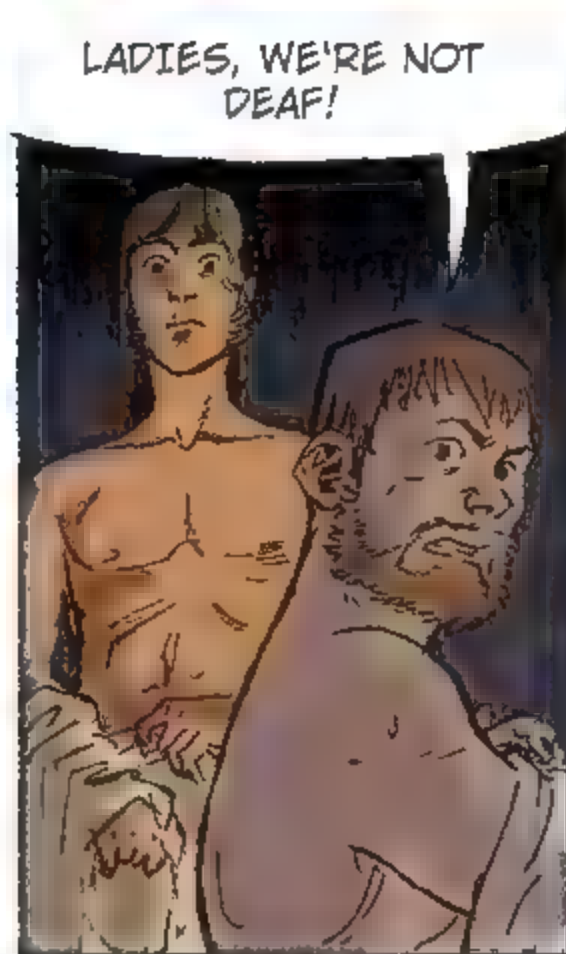
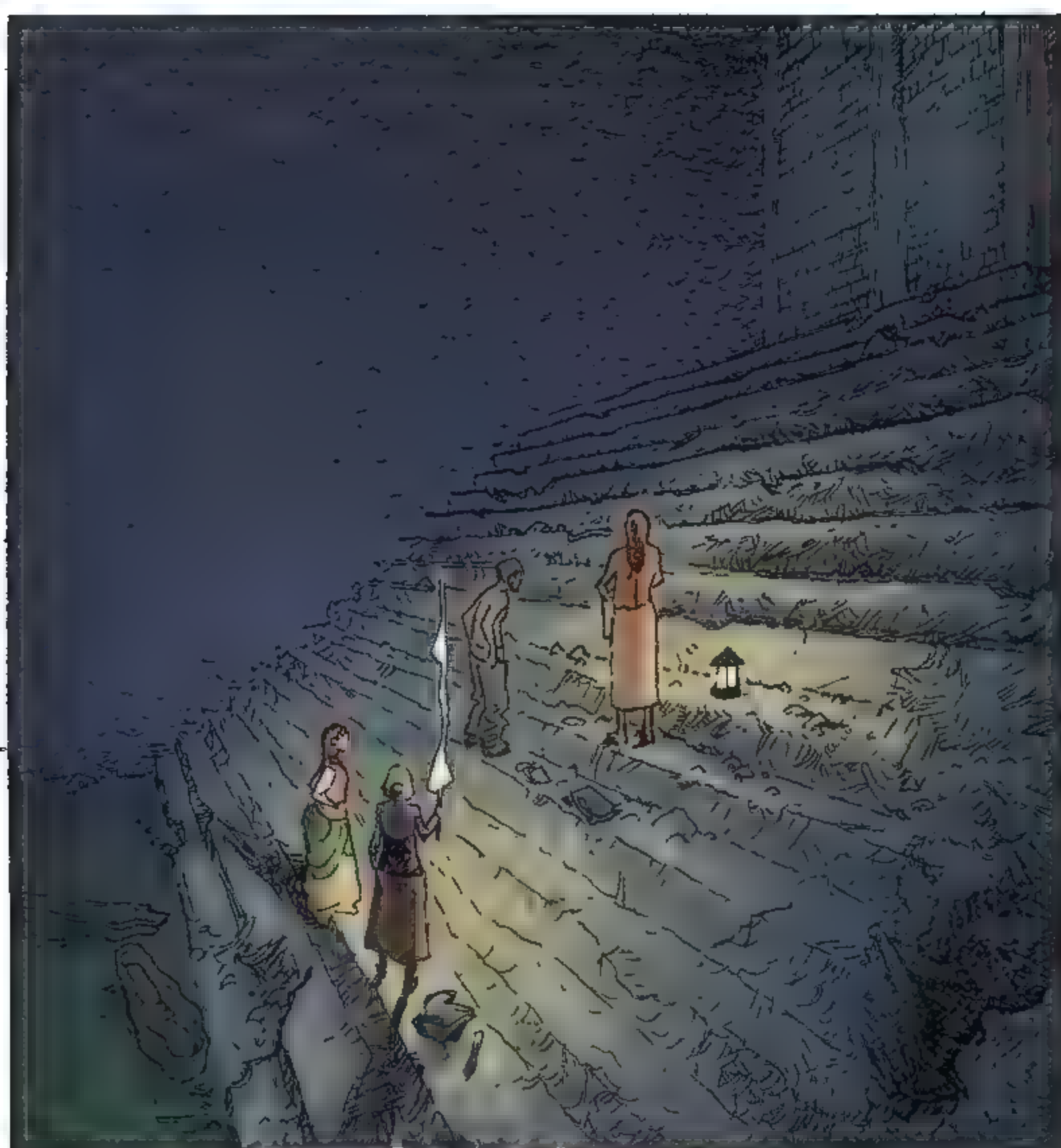
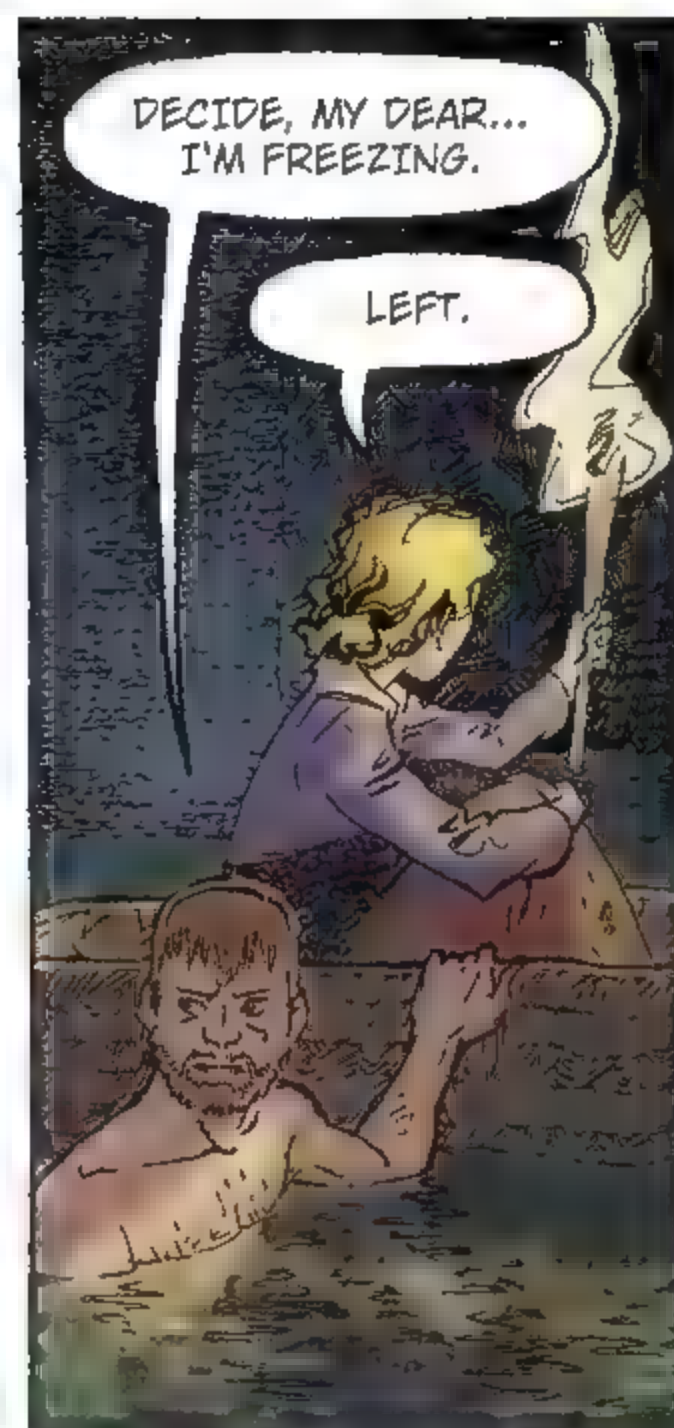
IT'S A MYSTICAL BOAT.

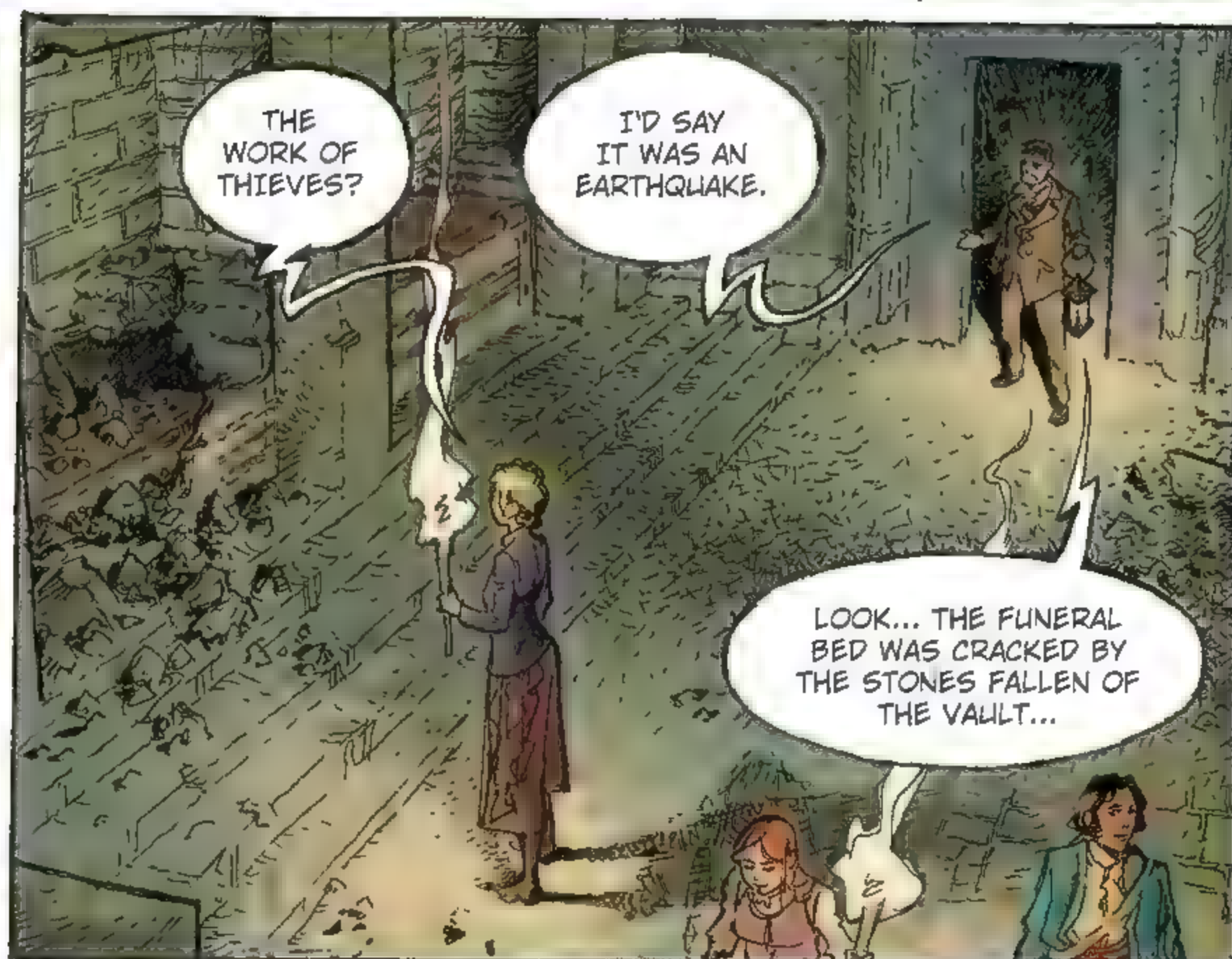
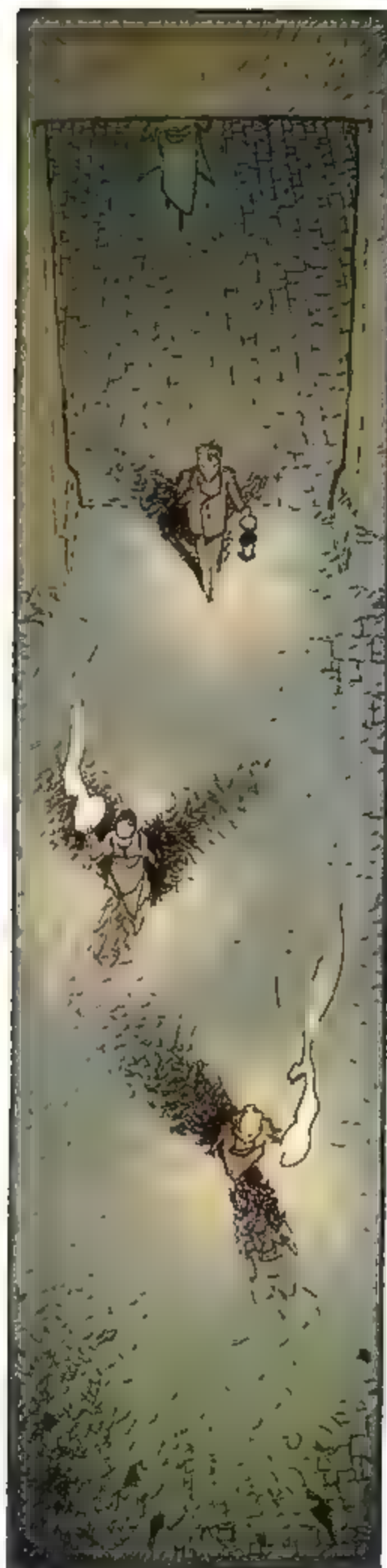
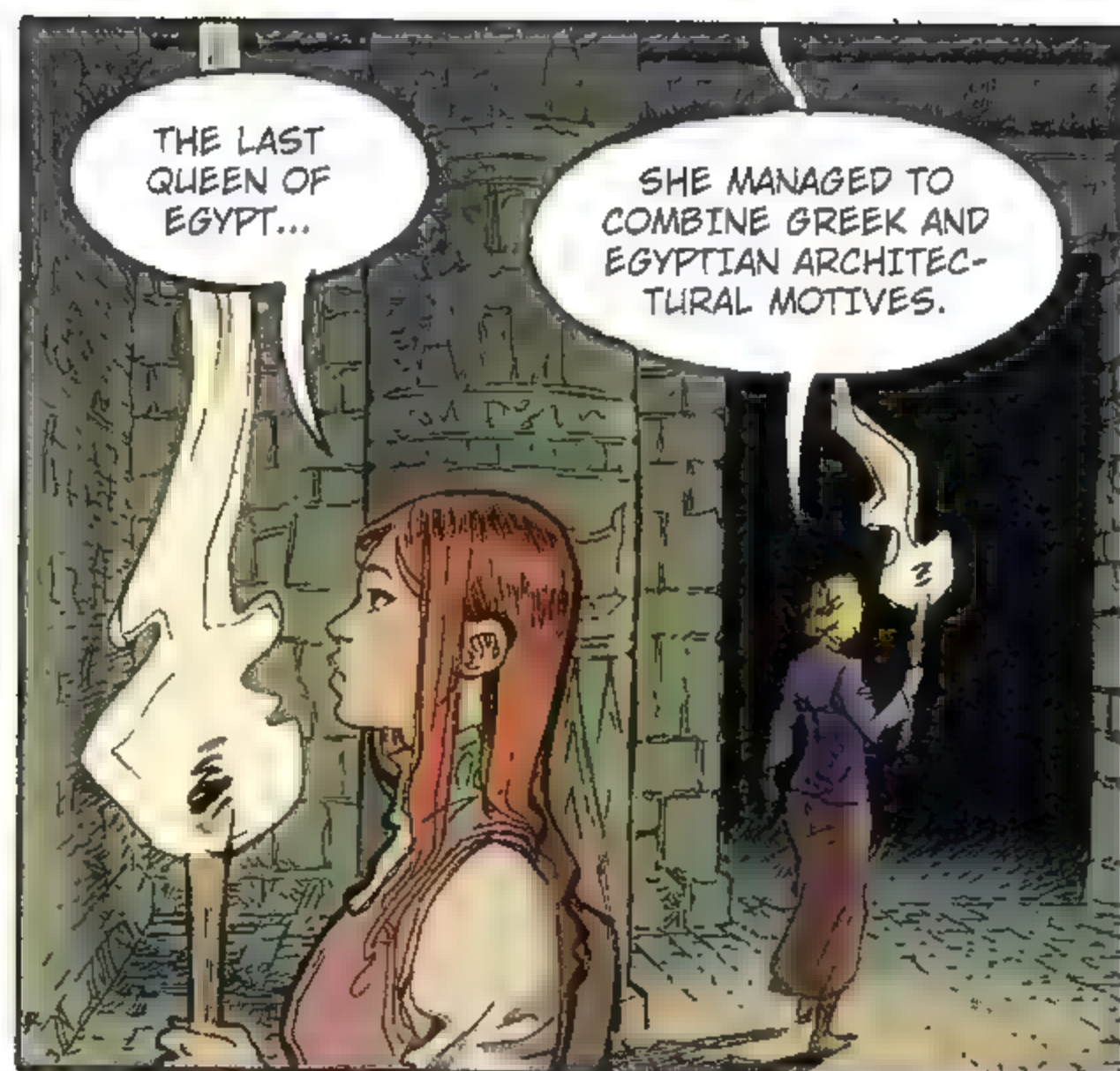


ALL FOUR OF US WON'T FIT IN THERE.

I SEE. JOYS OF SWIMMING GO TO US. HOWEVER, I'LL PUT MY DRY CLOTHES IN THE SARCOPHAGI.









CLEOPATRA'S TREASURY. FURNITURE, STATUES, FABRICS AS MANY AS YOU WISH. ALL STILL IN GOOD CONDITION.

BUT NOT ONE OUNCE OF GOLD.



THIS SMELLS OF ORGANIZED LOOTING. THE ROMAN EMPERORS MUST HAVE HELPED THEMSELVES IN THEIR TIME.



THERE'S A STRONG BET THAT ALEXANDER'S TREASURY IS NOTHING MORE THAN A MEMORY TOO!

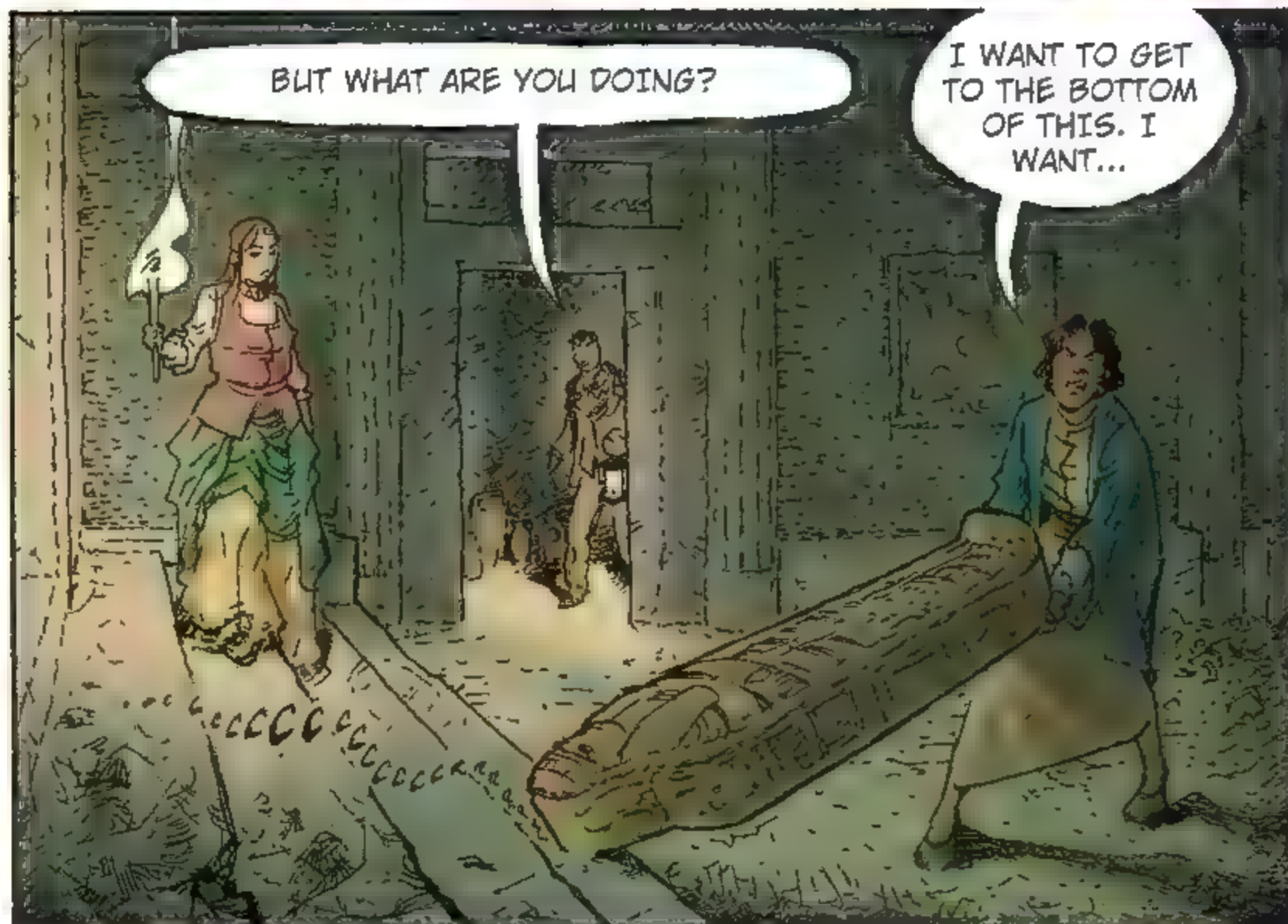
DON'T SPEAK OF BAD LUCK!

NO.

I'M COUNTING ON THE RESPECT WHICH THE CONQUEROR INSPIRED IN THE ROMANS. THEY WOULDN'T DARE TO STEAL HIS WEAPONS AND ARMOUR...



?!
CCCCCCCCRRRR



BUT WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

I WANT TO GET TO THE BOTTOM OF THIS. I WANT...



...TO KNOW IF THE WORLD'S MOST FAMOUS QUEEN IS IN THIS COFFIN!

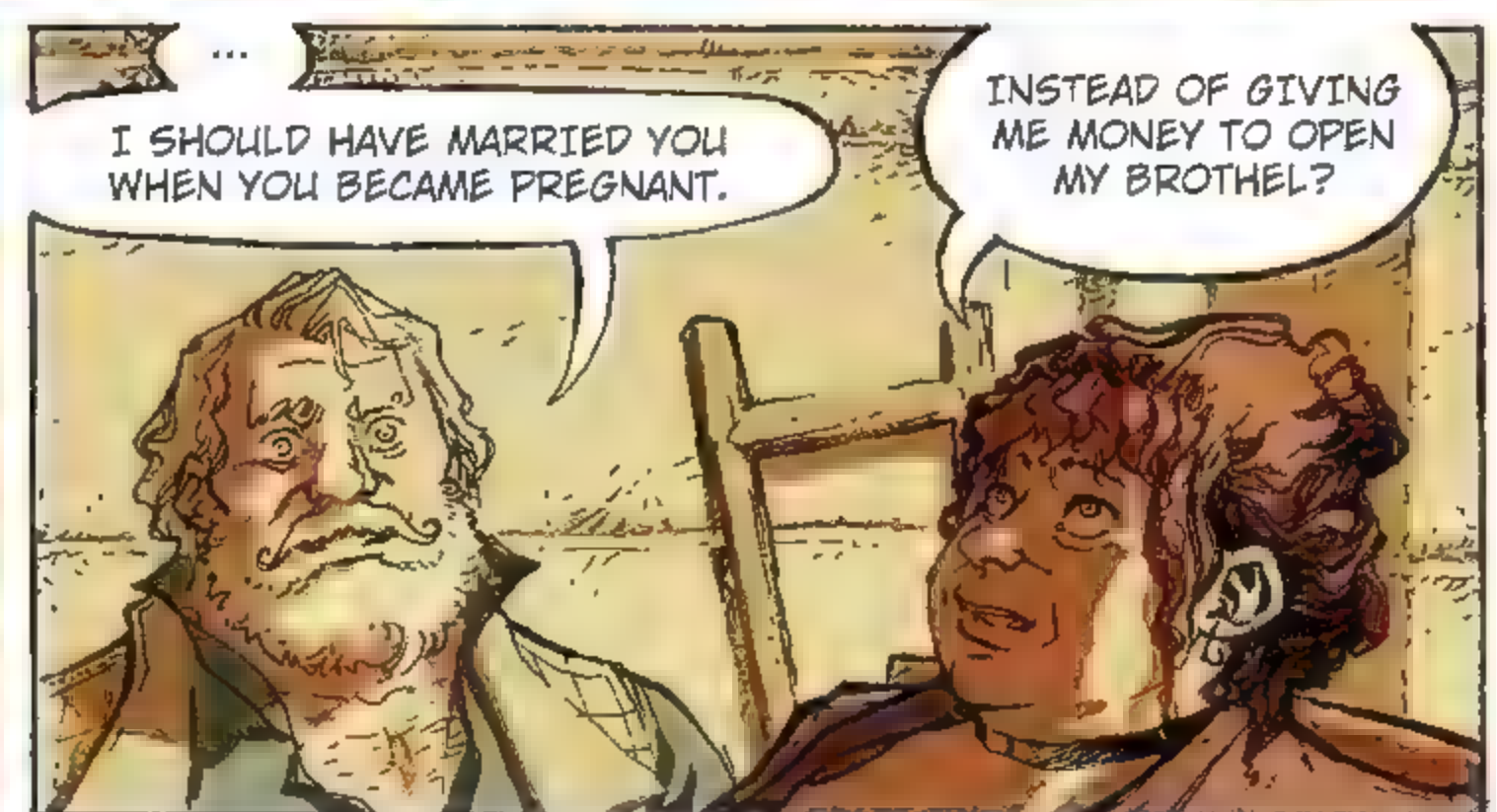
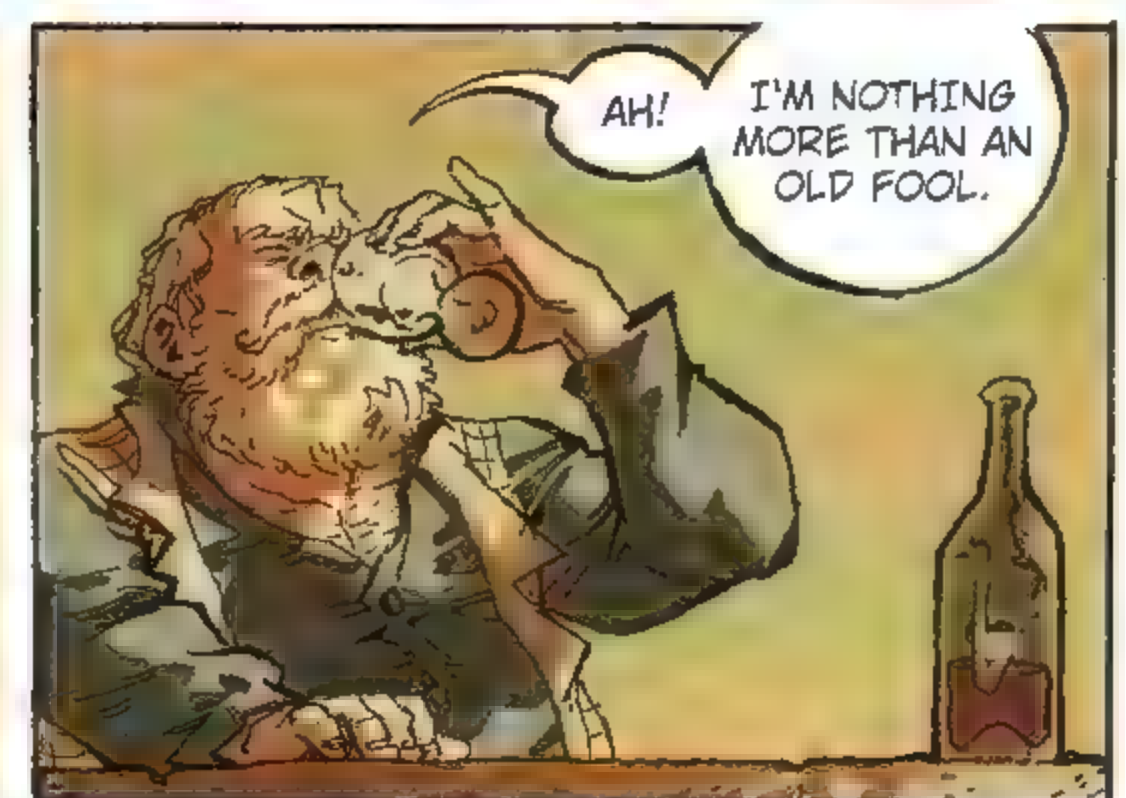
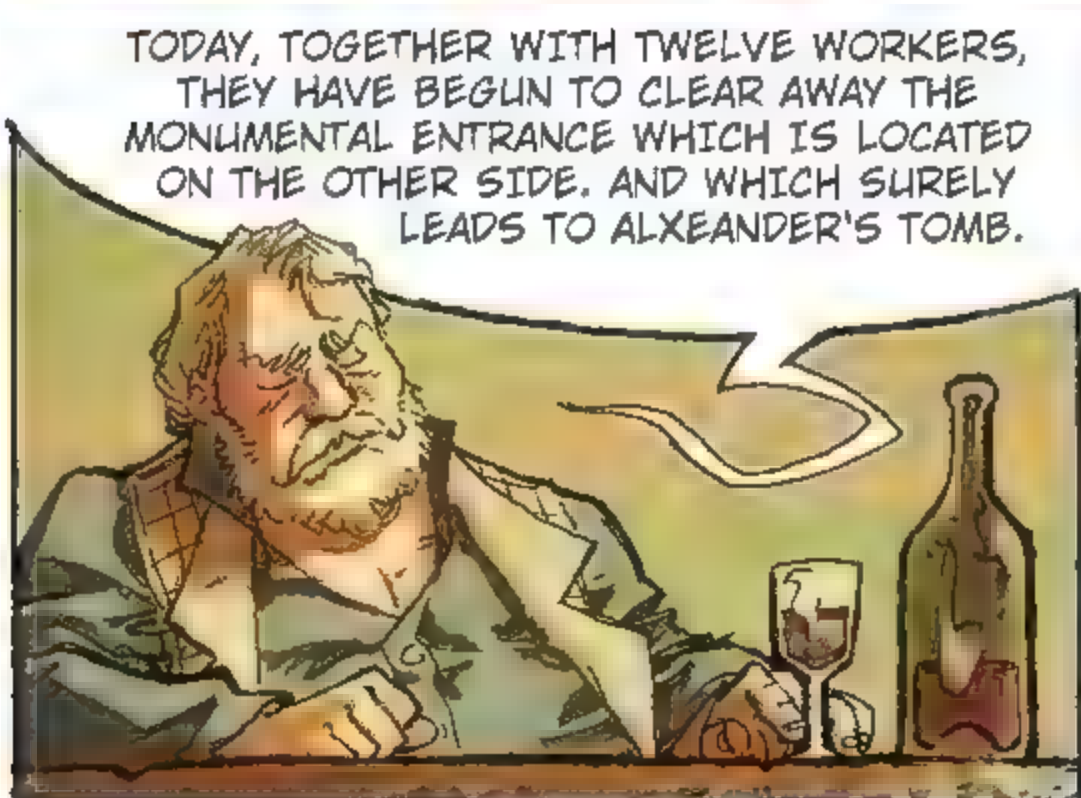
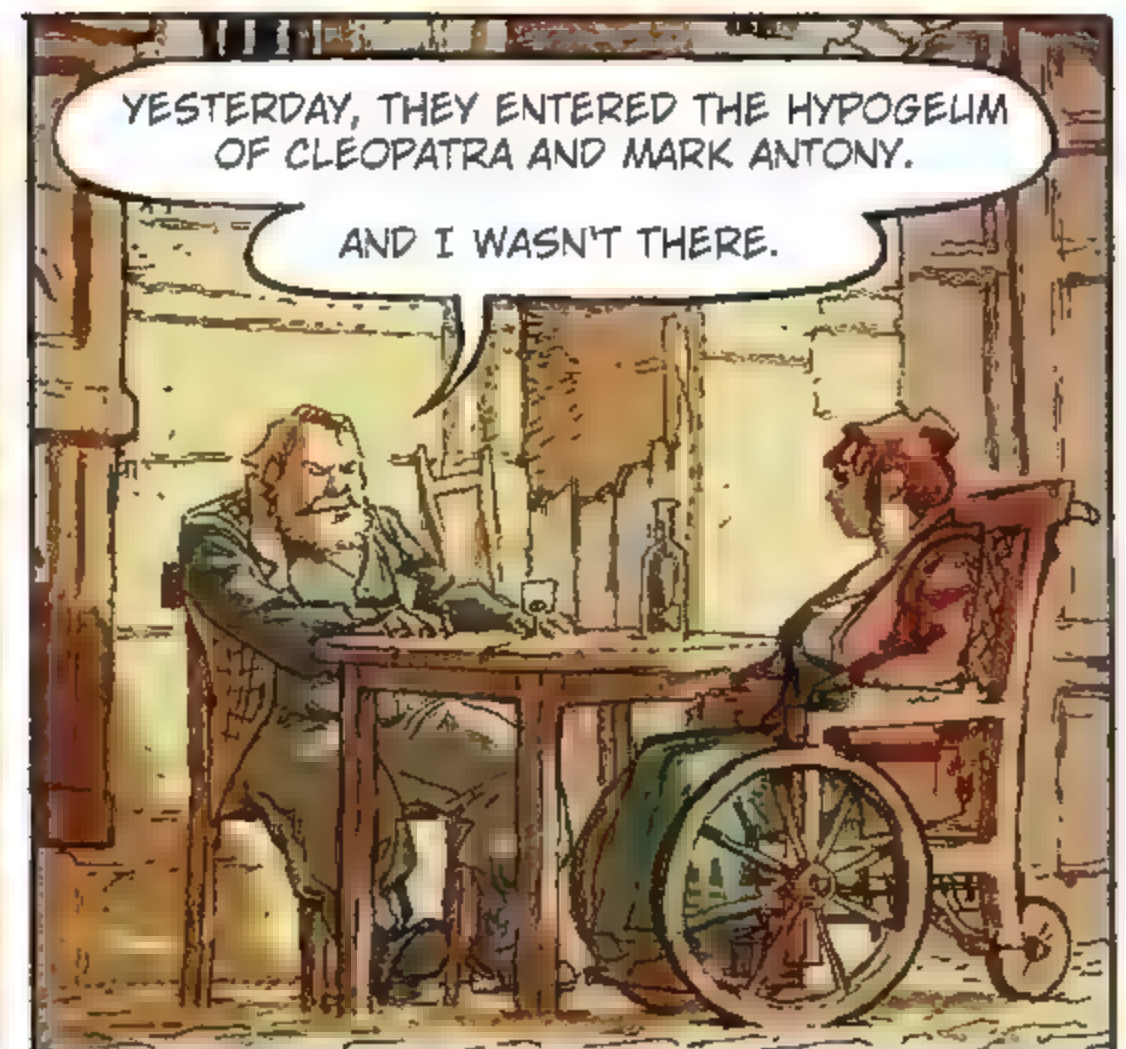
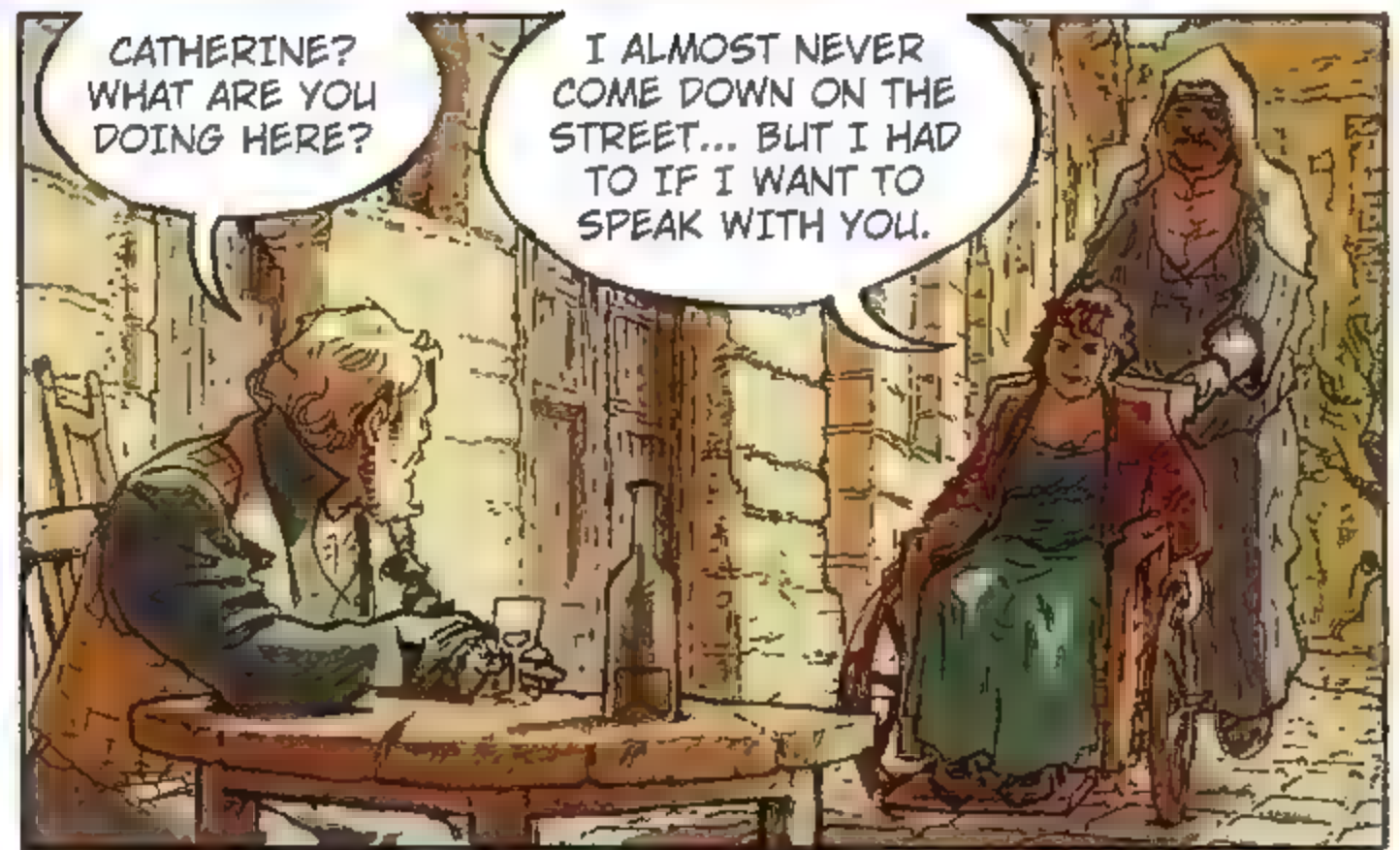


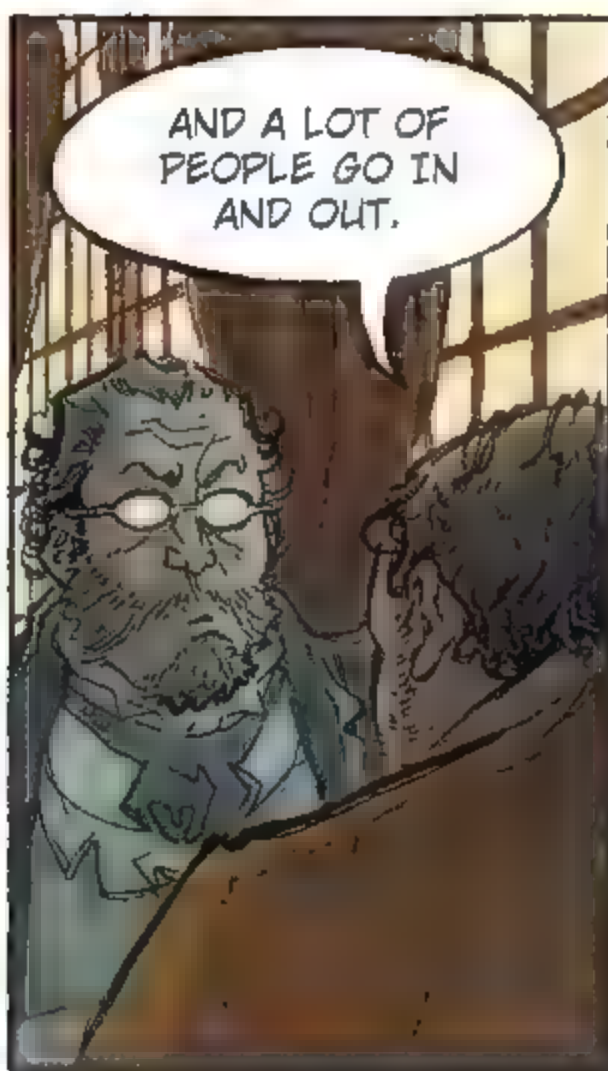
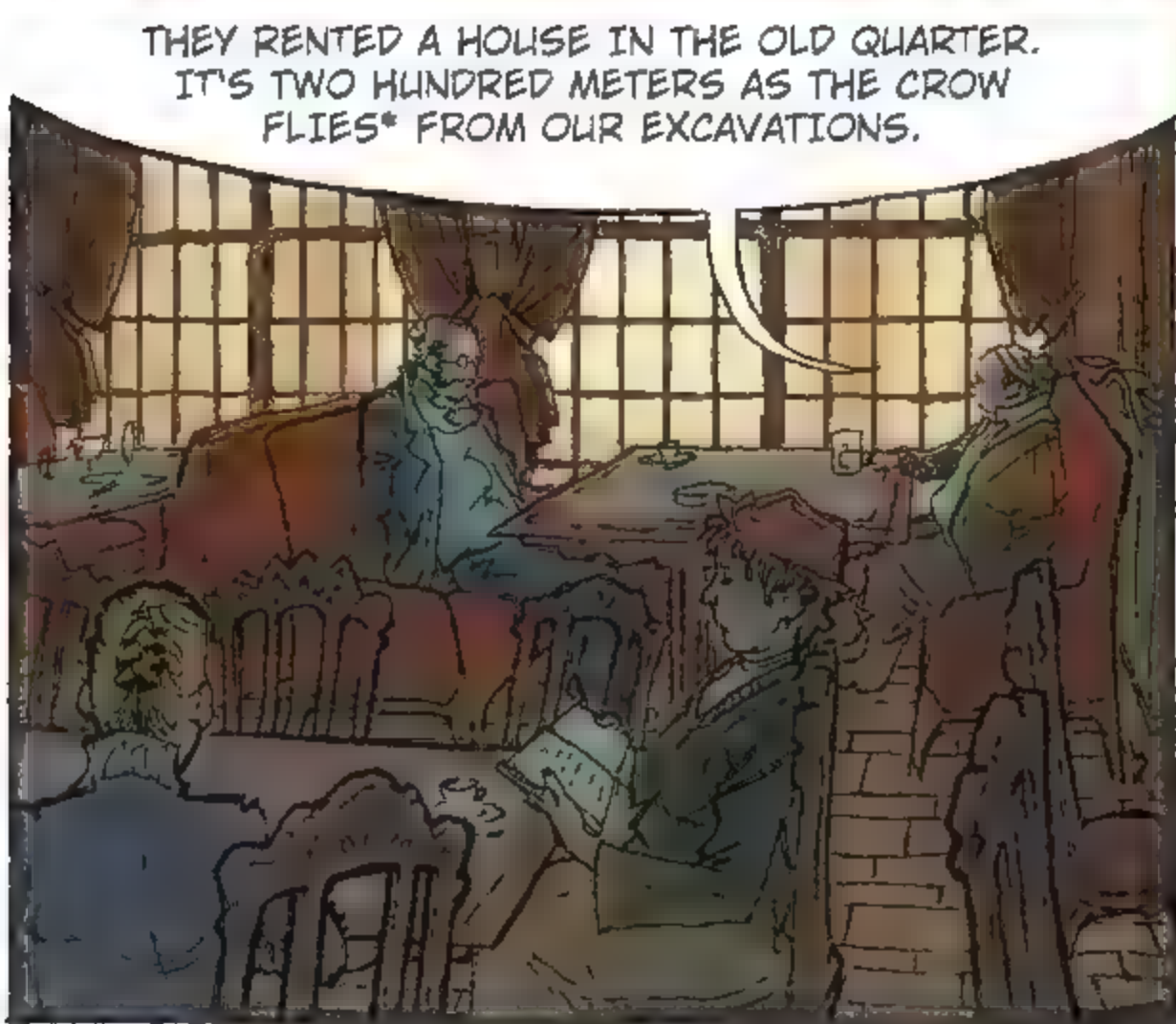
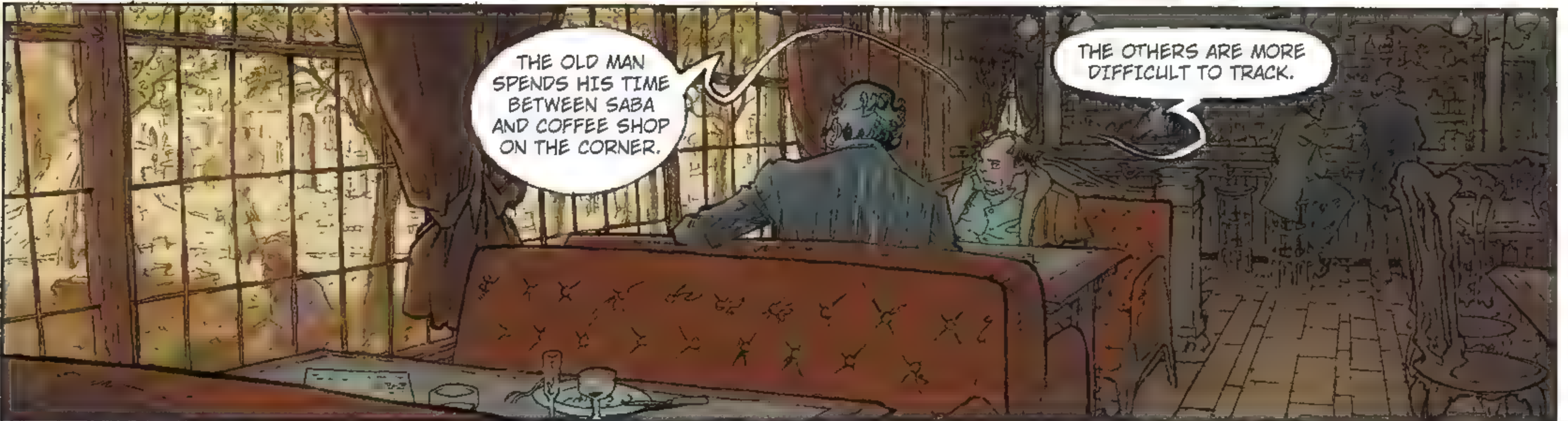
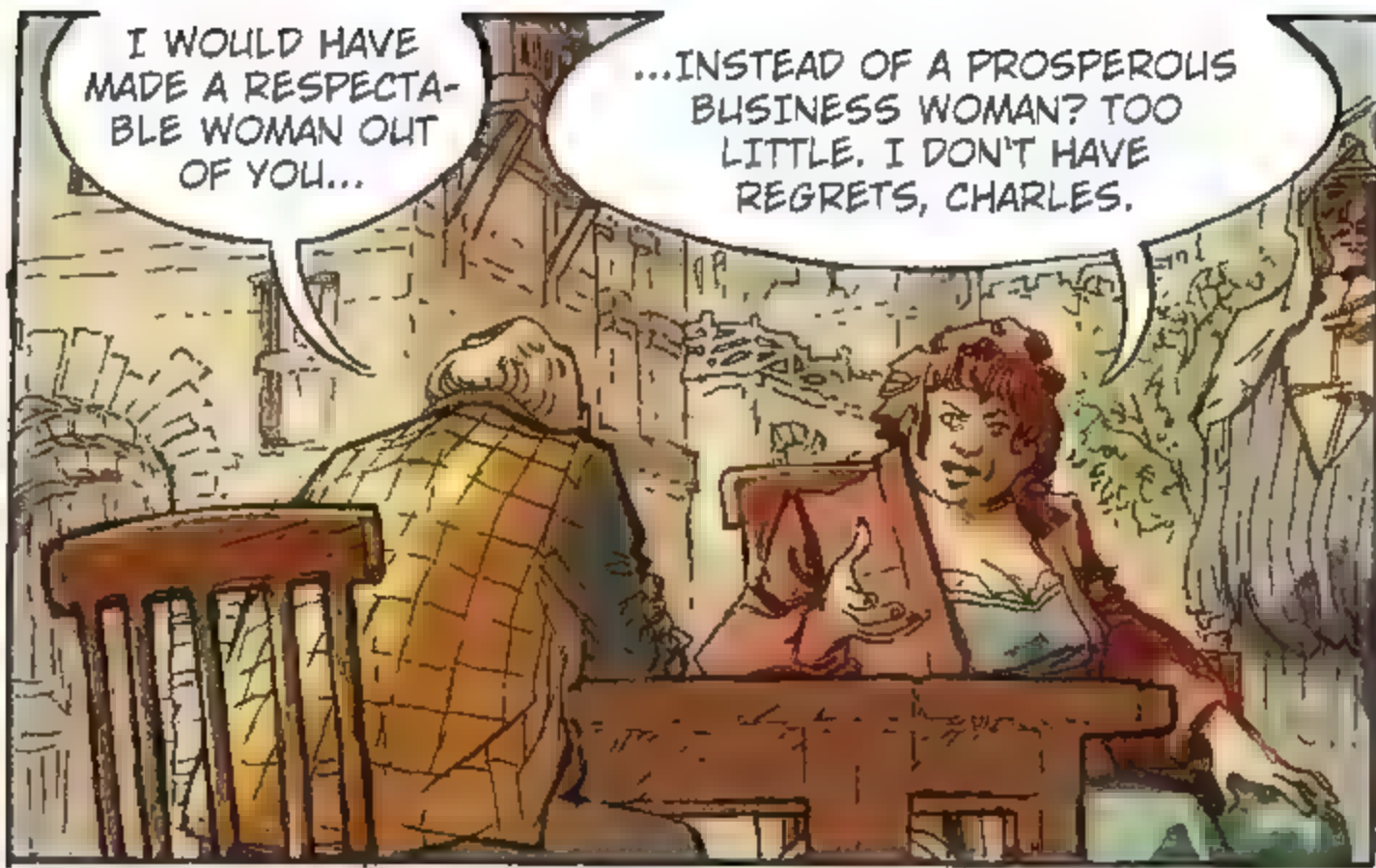
THE MUMMY WEARS A FUNERAL MASK...



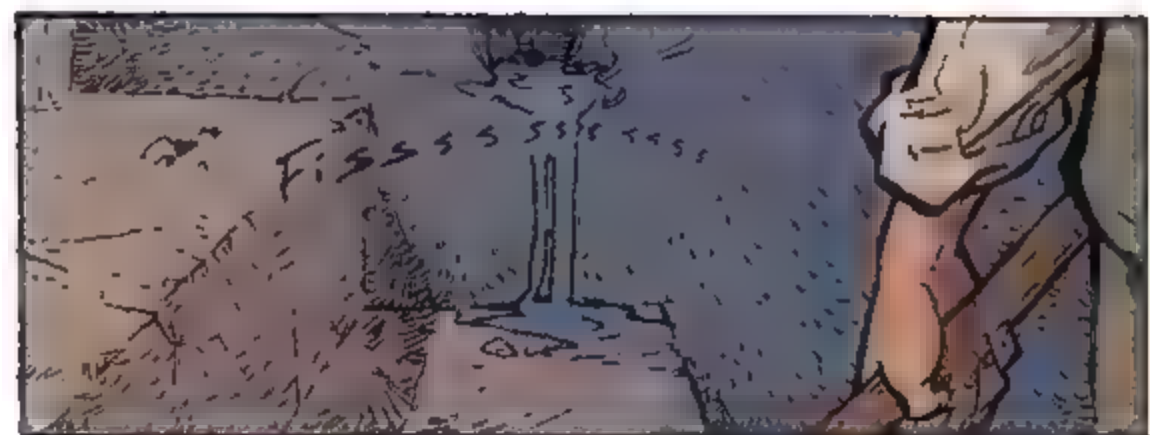
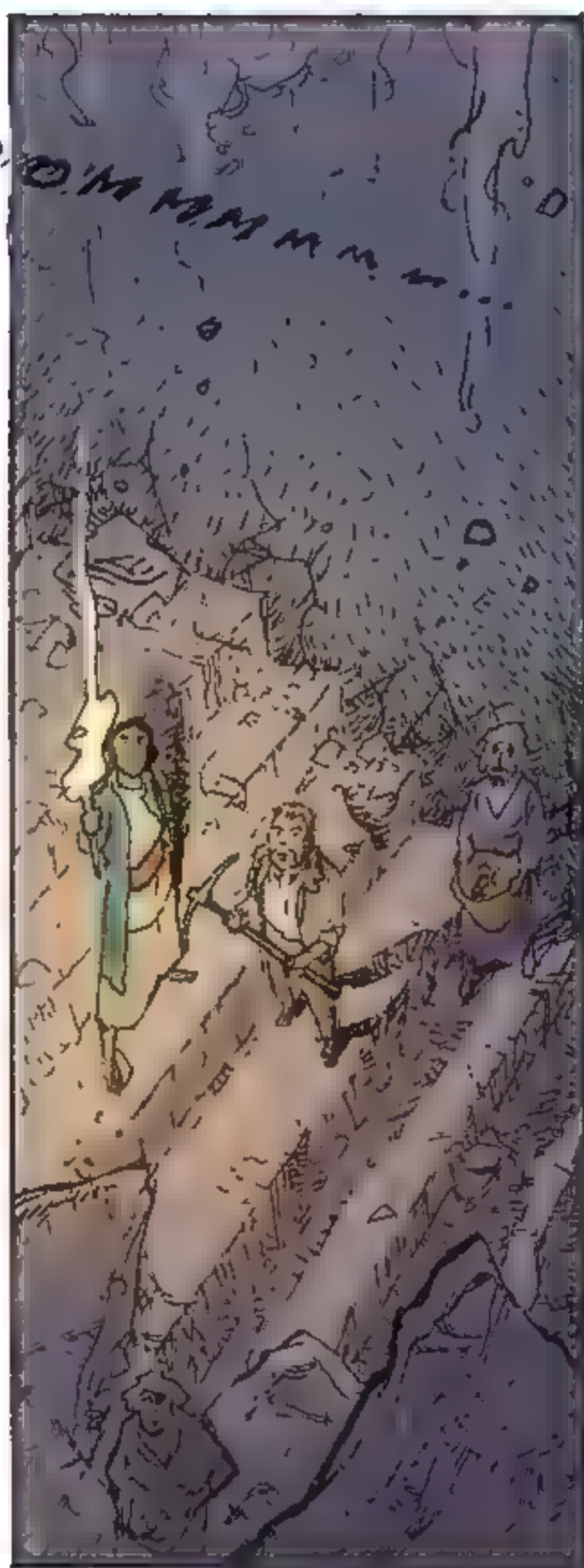
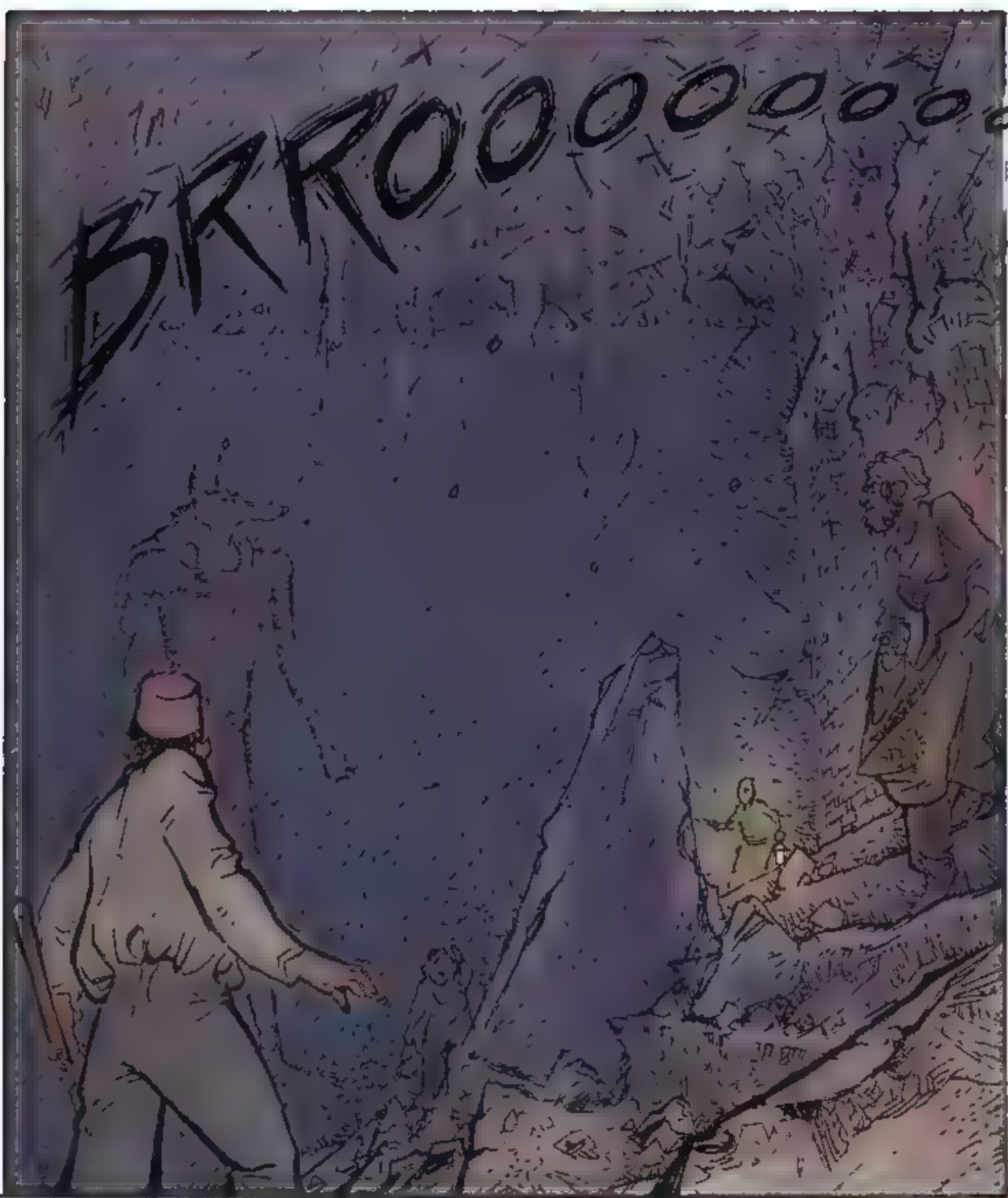
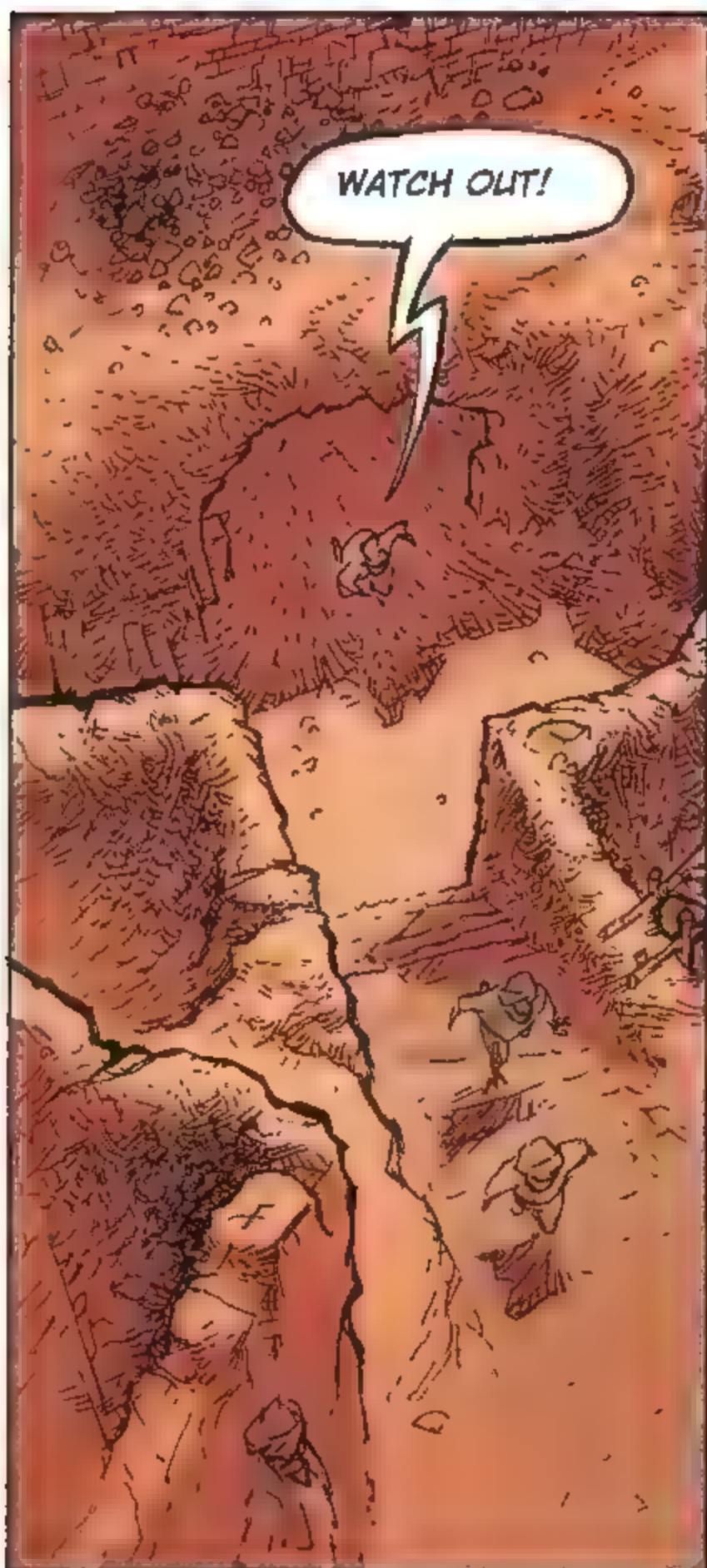
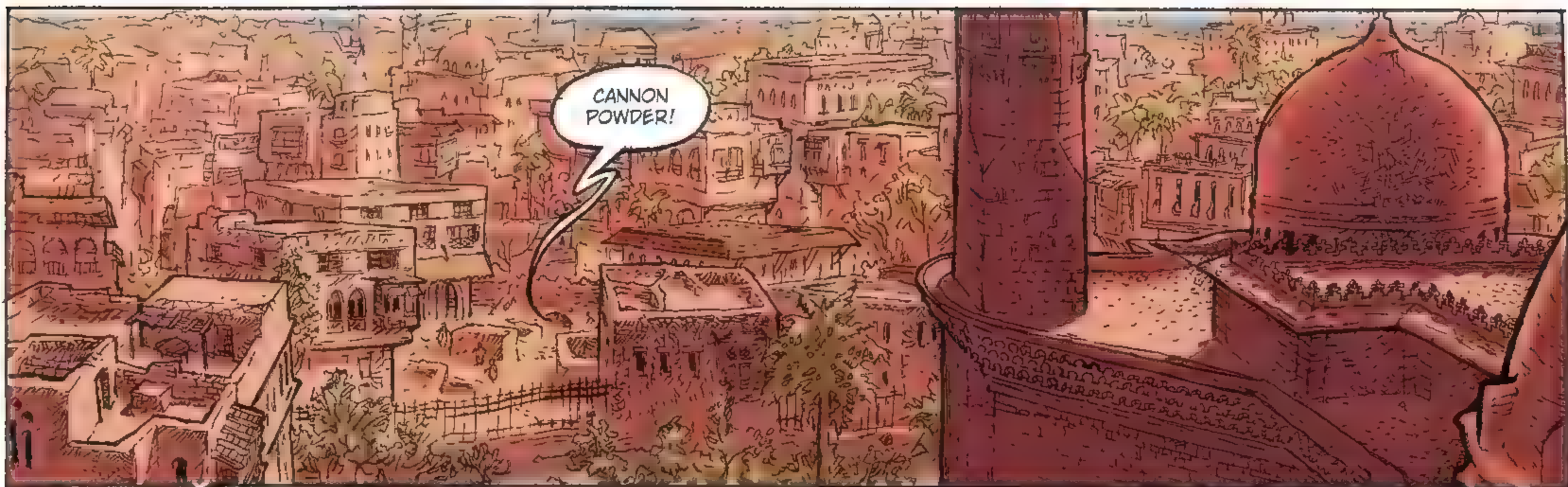
"CLEOPATRA PHILOPATOR"...

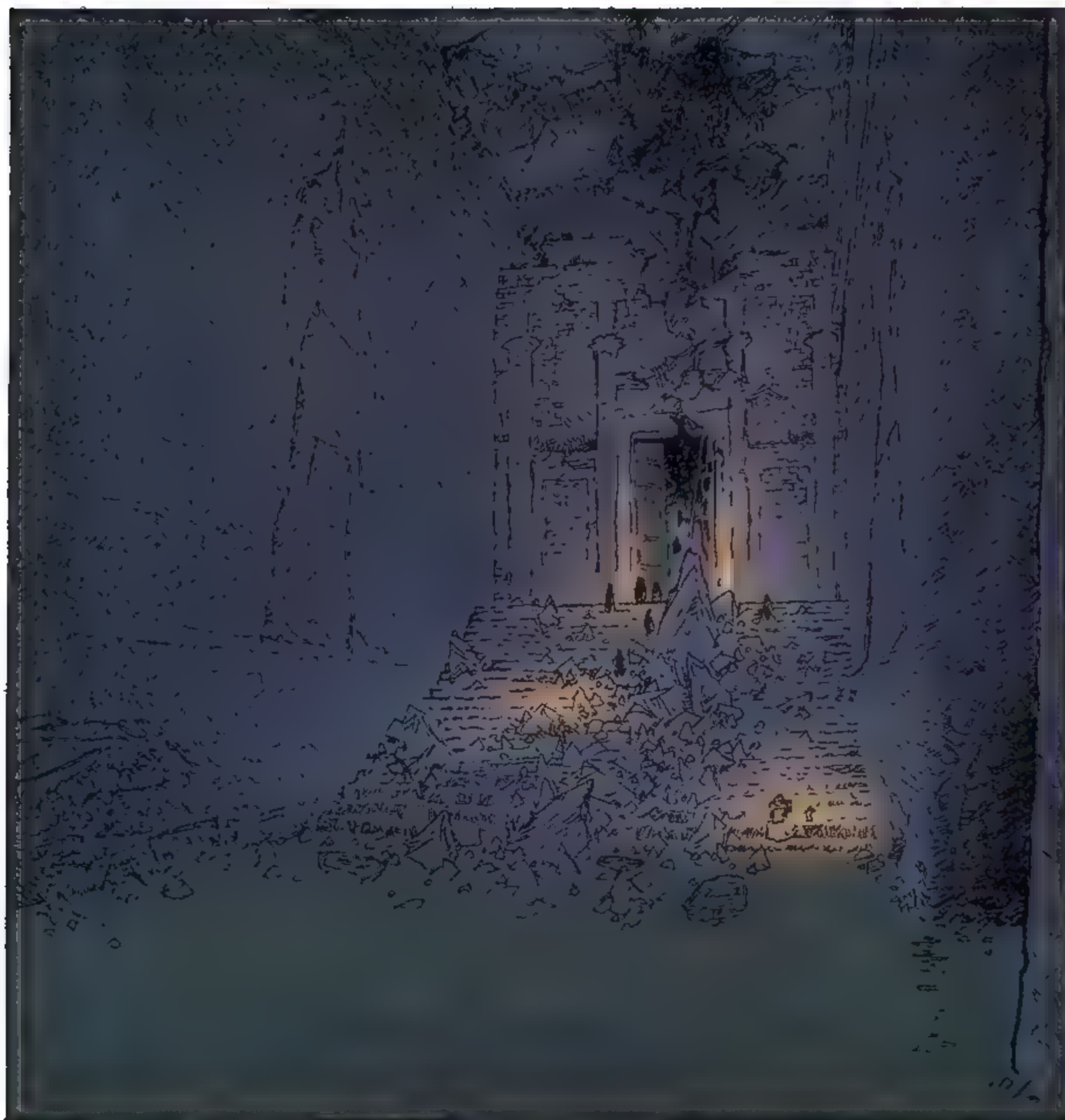
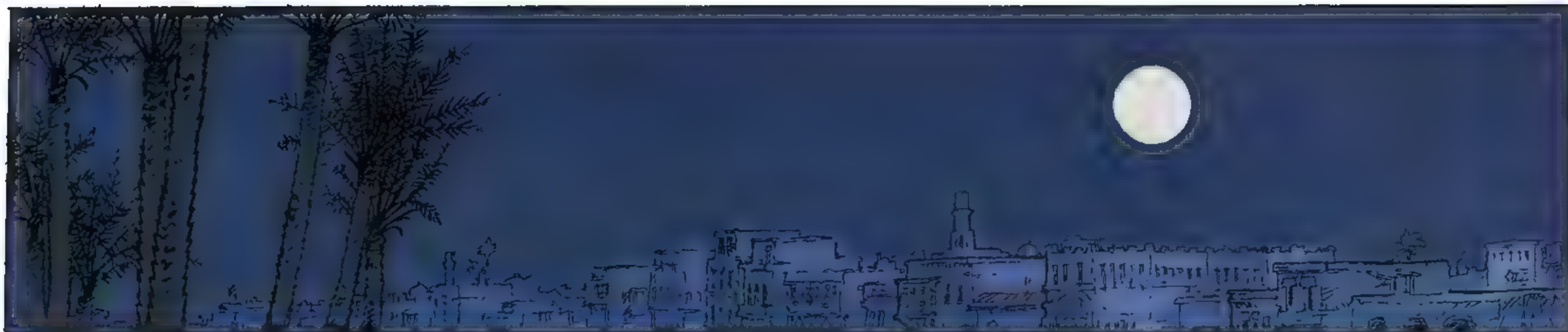
SHE WAS BEAUTIFUL.

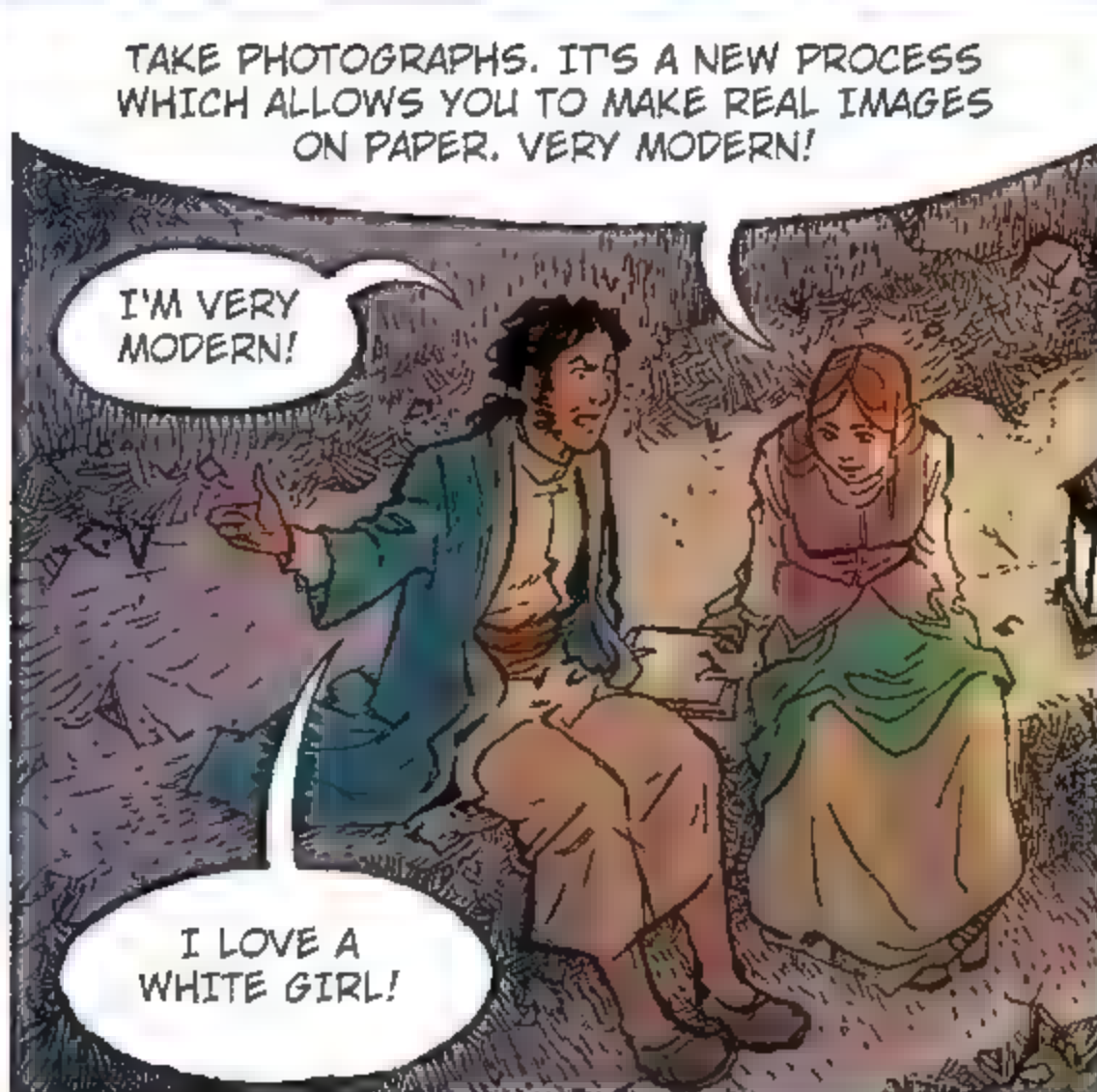
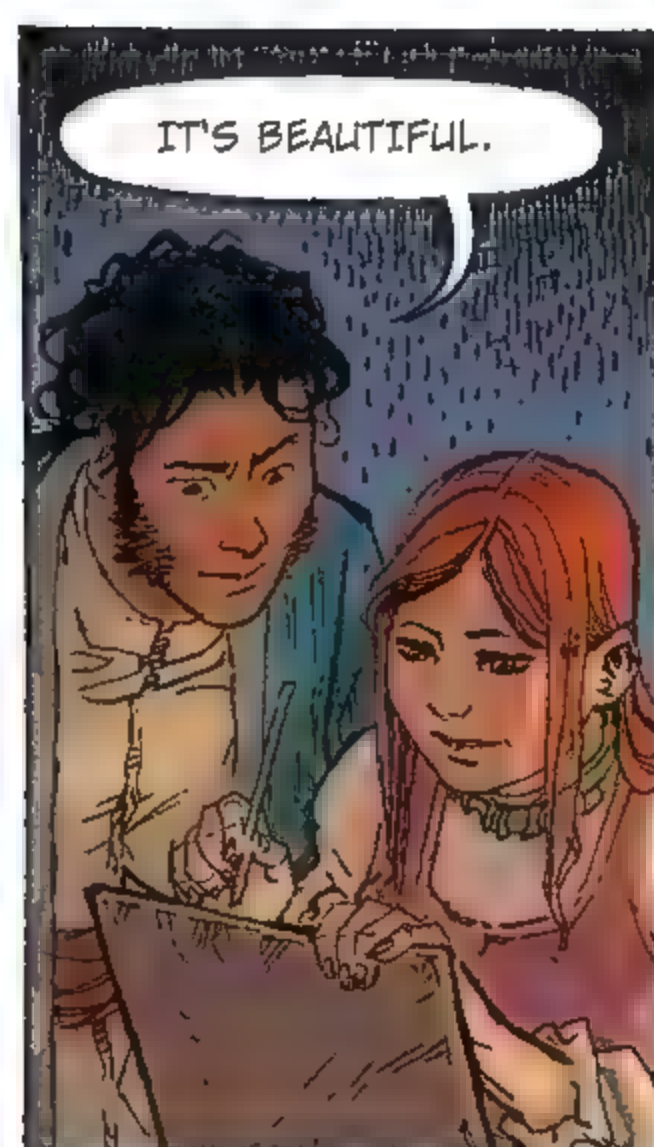
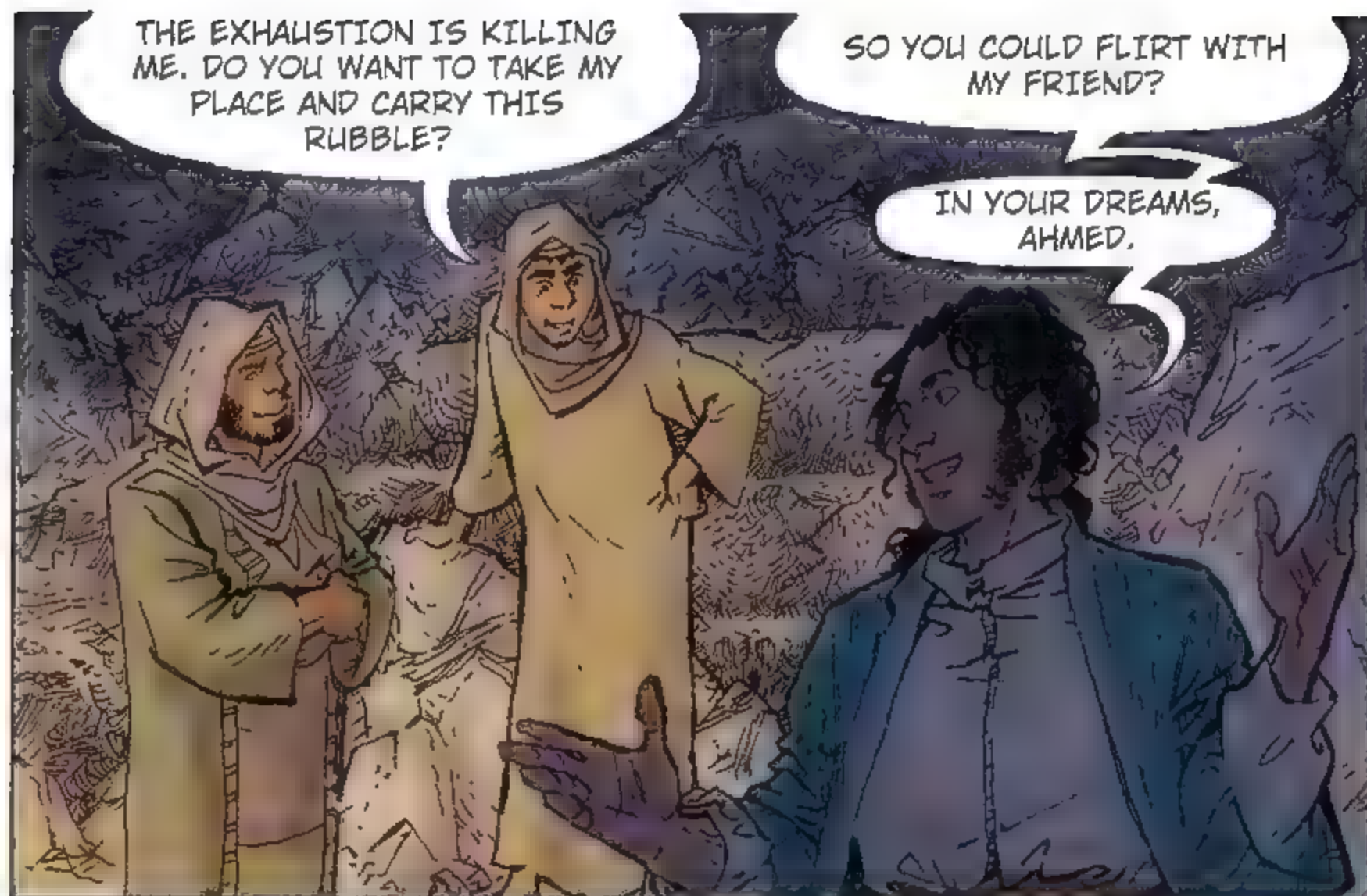


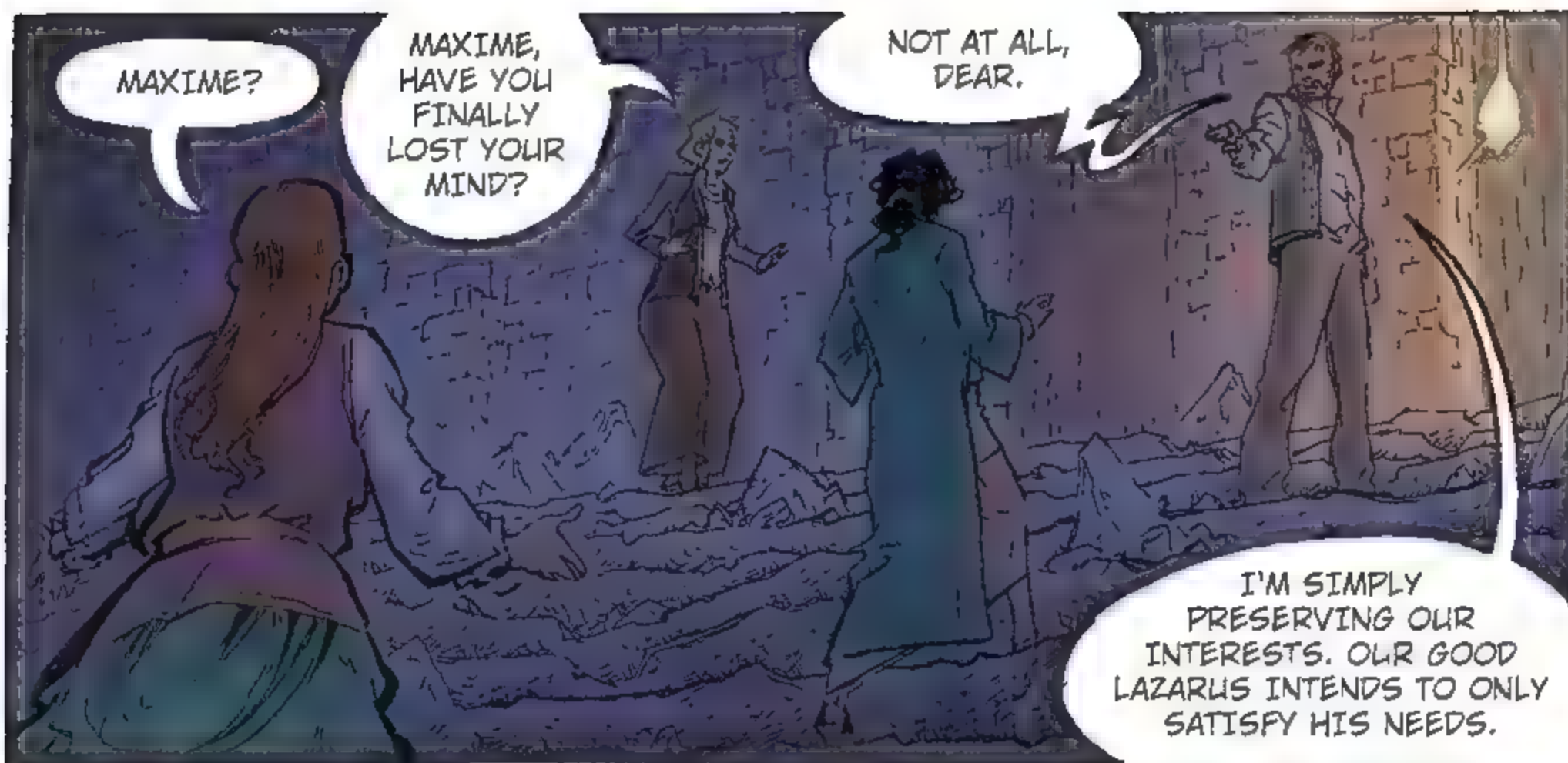


*A STRAIGHT LINE BETWEEN TWO POINTS.



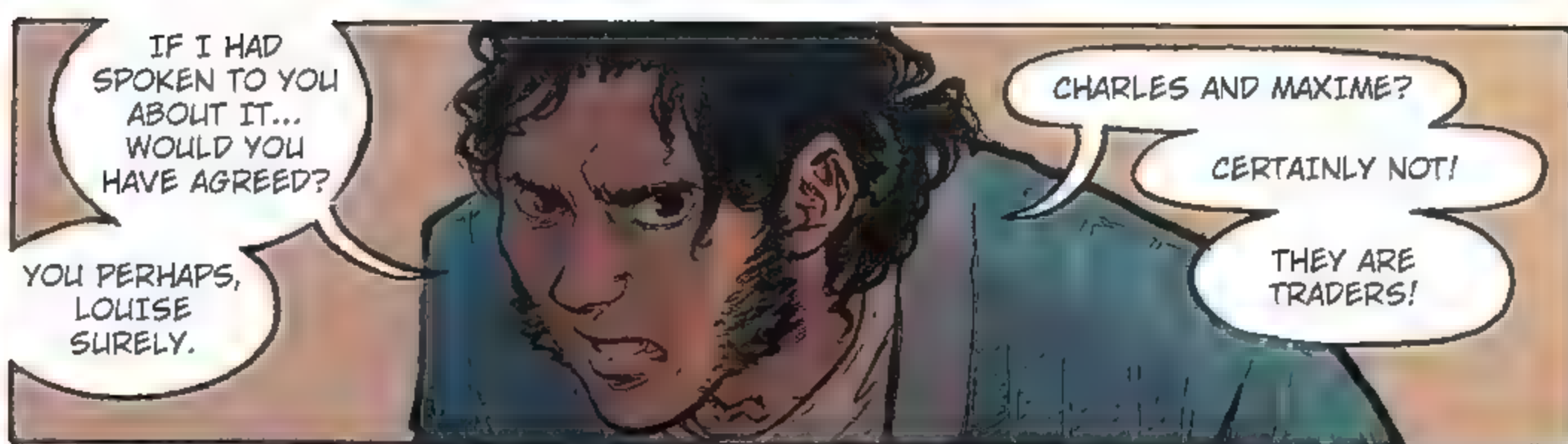








WE WERE SUPPOSED TO FORM A UNITED GROUP... YOUR NOBLE CAUSE REMAINS A TREASON!!!



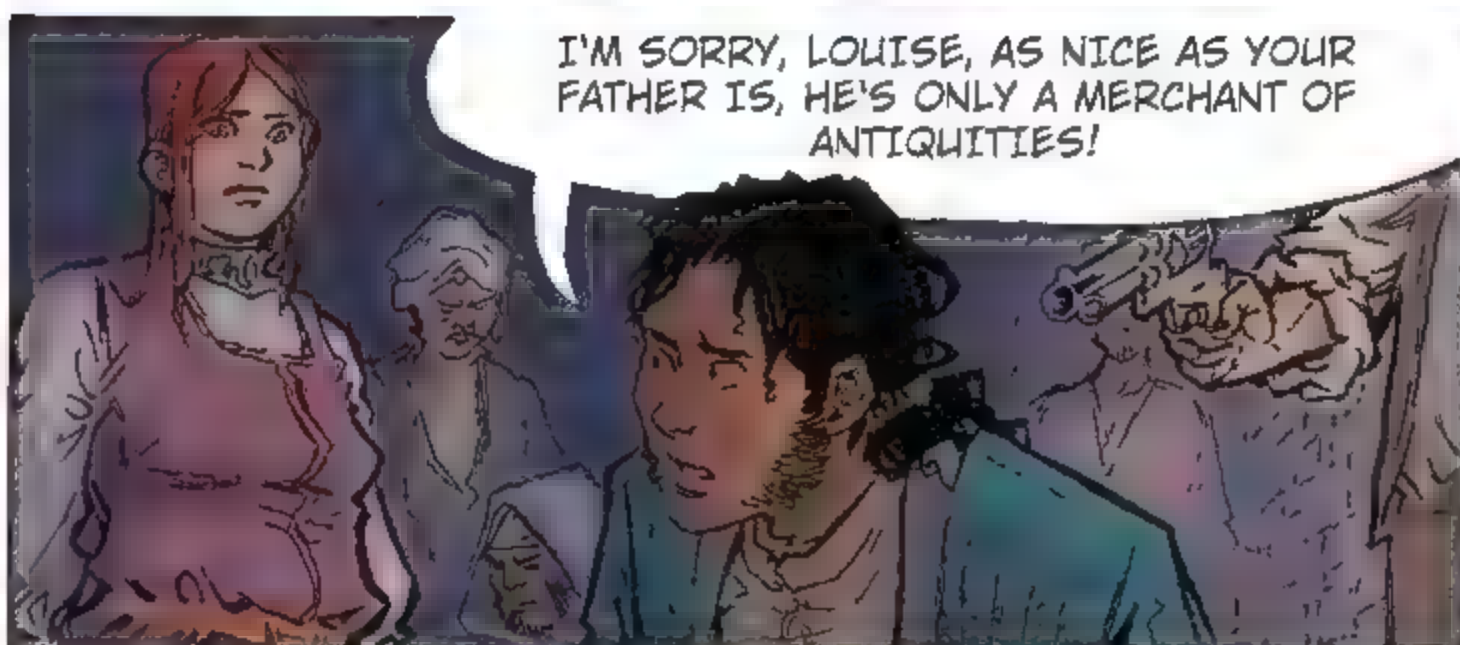
IF I HAD SPOKEN TO YOU ABOUT IT... WOULD YOU HAVE AGREED?

YOU PERHAPS, LOUISE SURELY.

CHARLES AND MAXIME?

CERTAINLY NOT!

THEY ARE TRADERS!



I'M SORRY, LOUISE, AS NICE AS YOUR FATHER IS, HE'S ONLY A MERCHANT OF ANTIQUITIES!



HE'S ONLY A...?!



HE WELCOMED YOU AMONG US, TREATED YOU LIKE A FRIEND, HE WOULD HAVE APPRECIATED YOU AS A SON!



DO YOU REMEMBER THAT MY FATHER MADE THIS TREASURE HUNT POSSIBLE?!

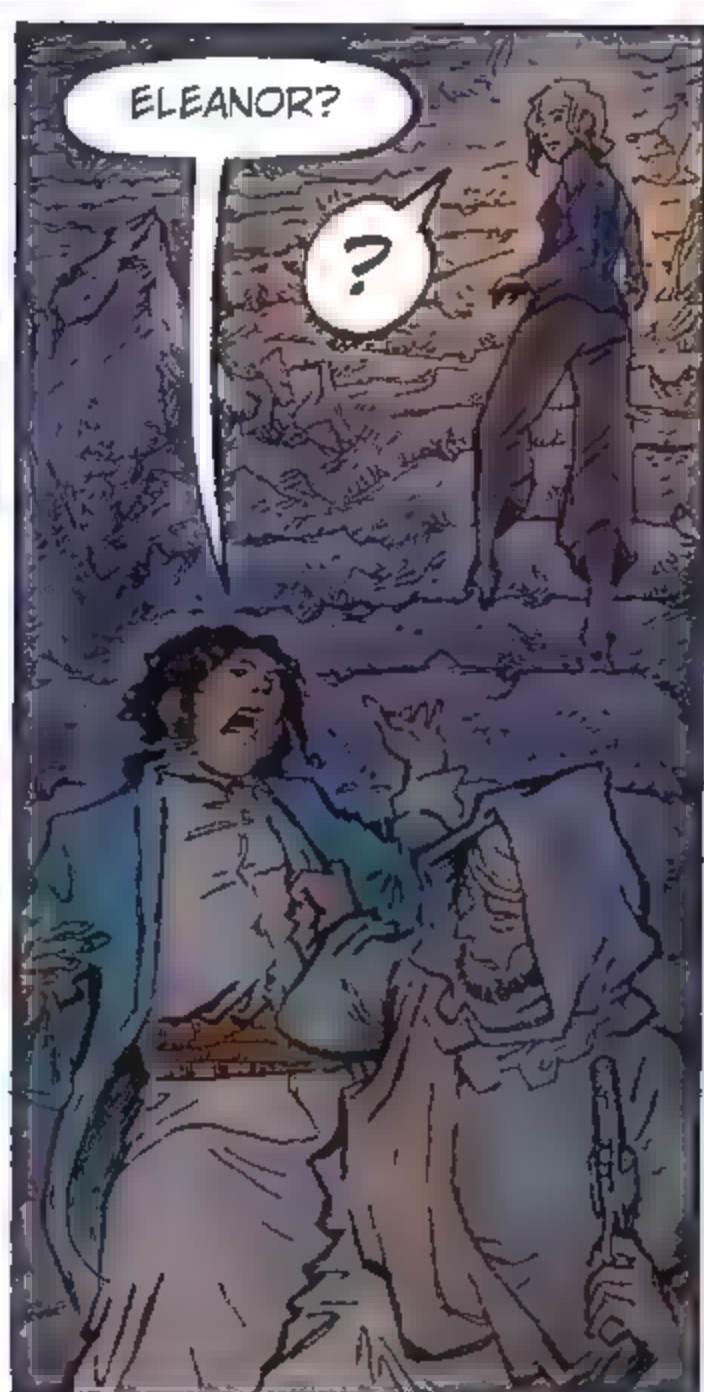
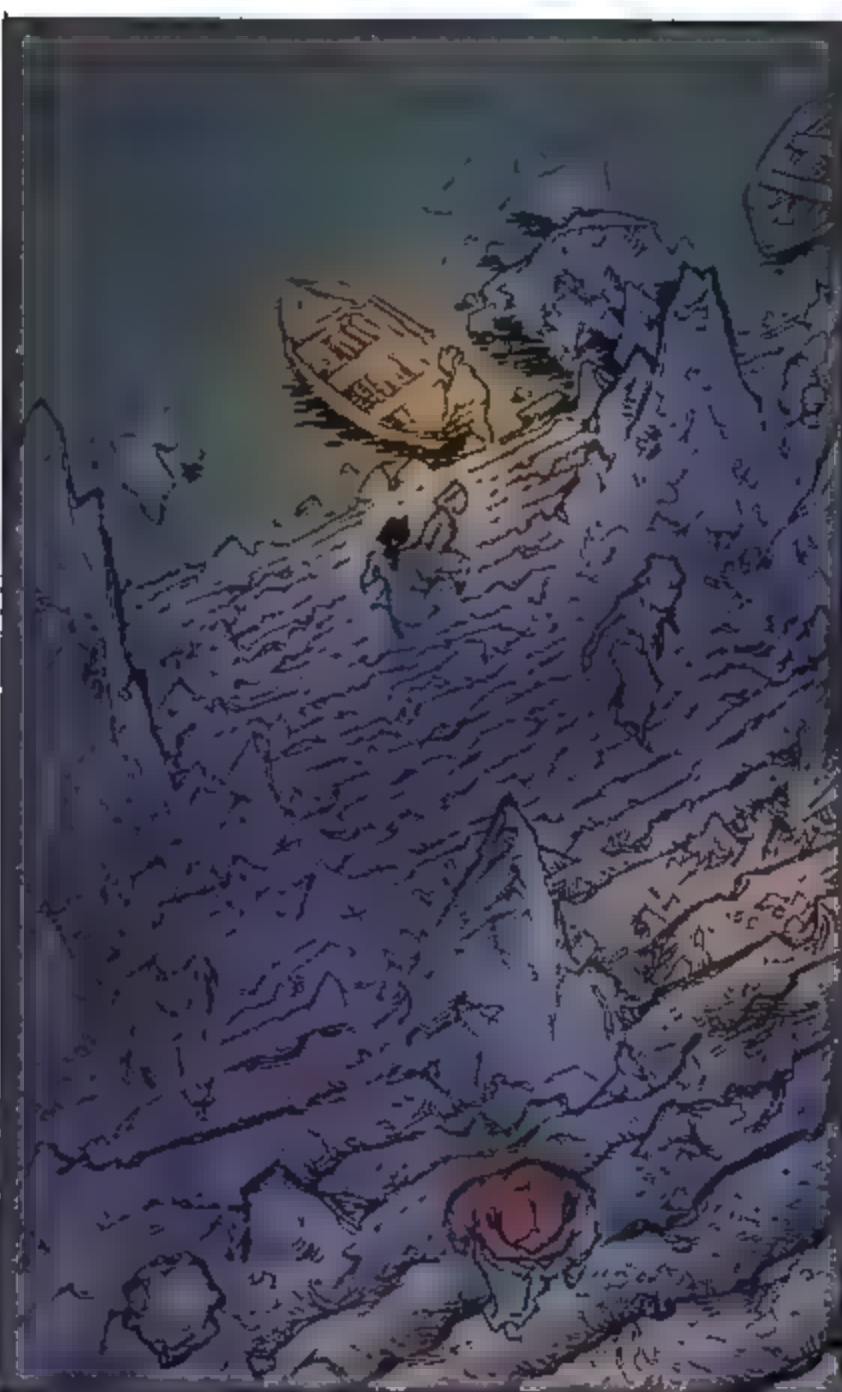


GOOD. IN ANY CASE, IT ENDS HERE FOR YOU. ALEXANDER AWAITS US, AND TOWERTON SEEMS FURIOUSLY IMPATIENT ABOVE US.



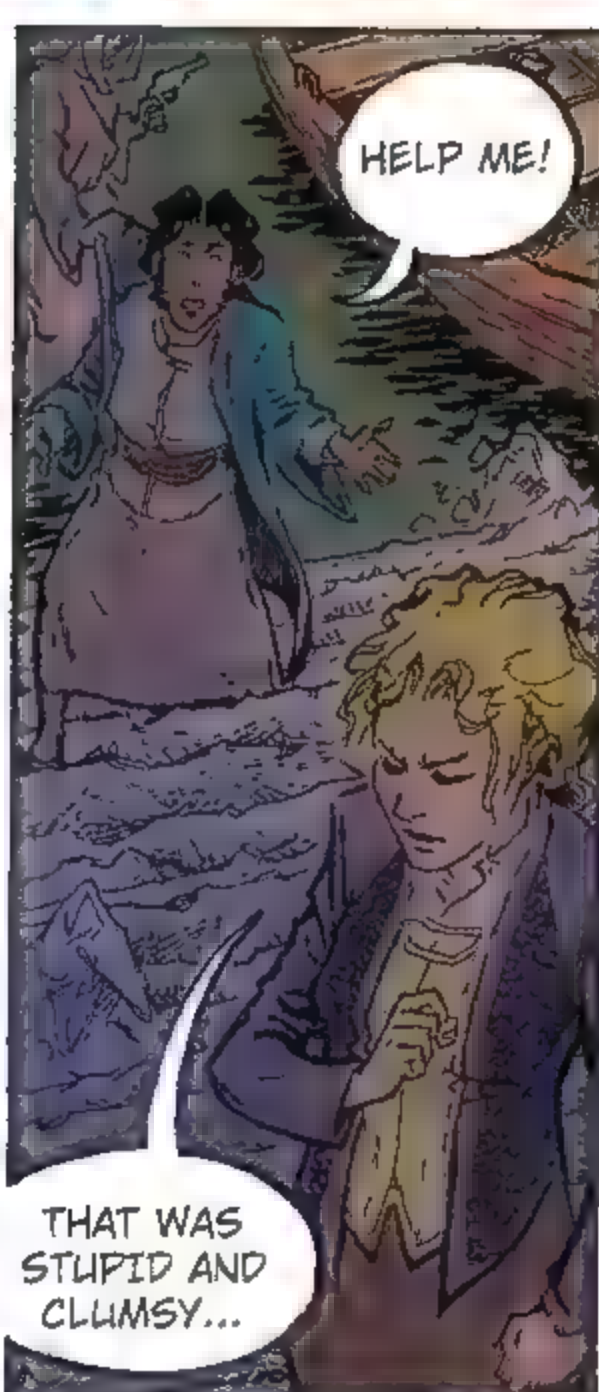
WE'LL HAVE TO PUT YOU AWAY SOMEWHERE...

WHY NOT IN CLEOPATRA'S HOME?



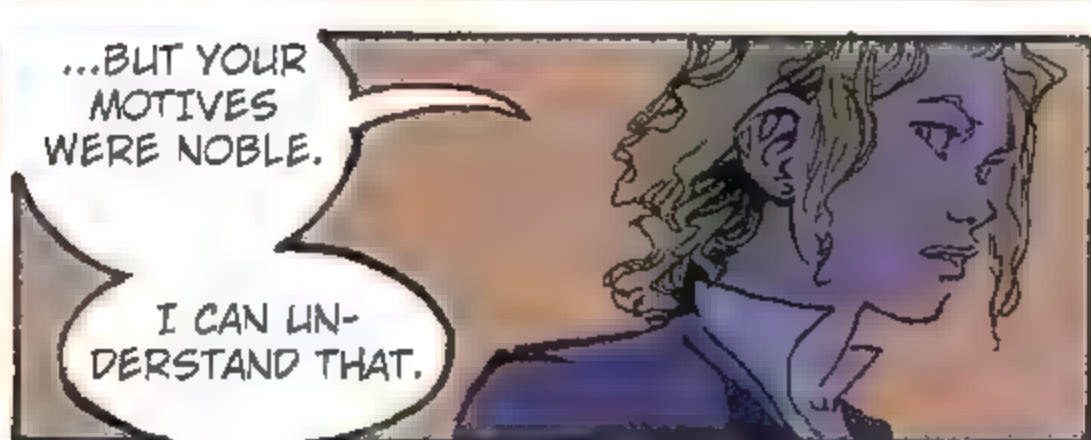
ELEANOR?

?



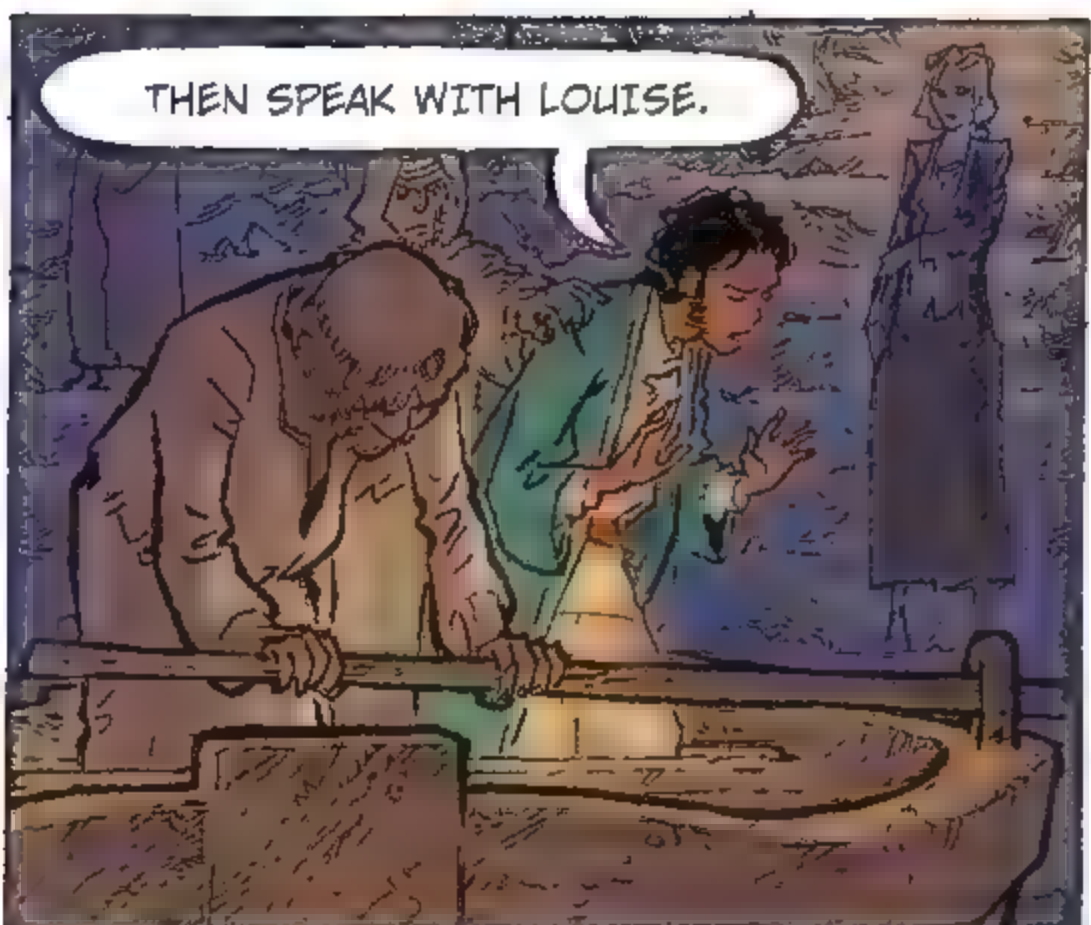
HELP ME!

THAT WAS STUPID AND CLUMSY...

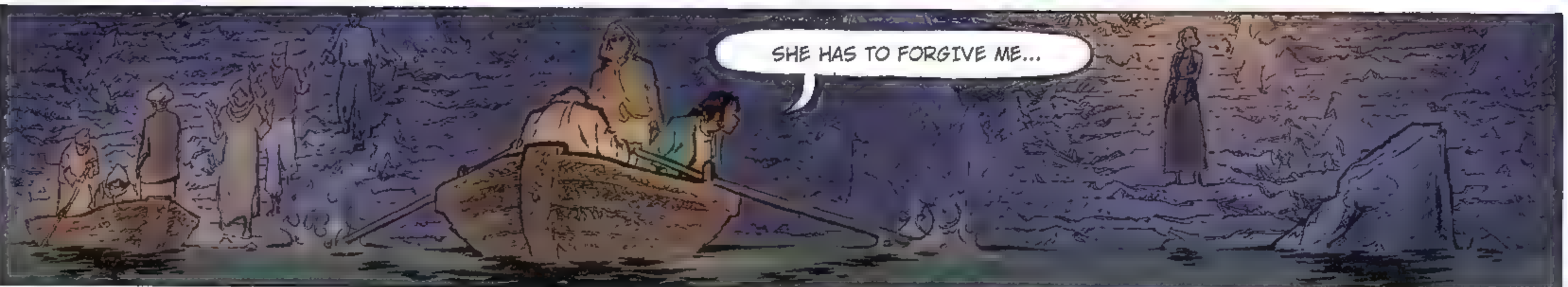


...BUT YOUR MOTIVES WERE NOBLE.

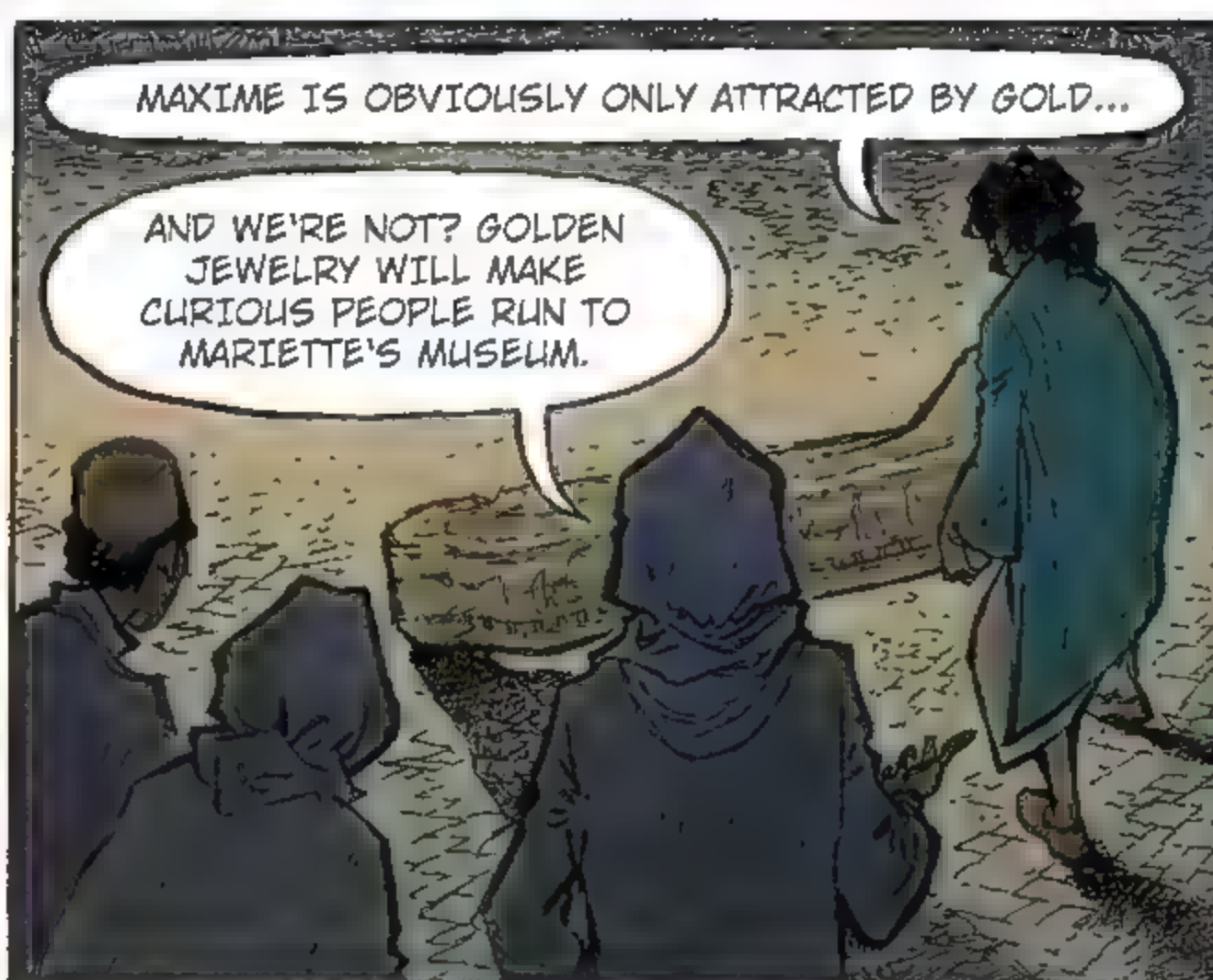
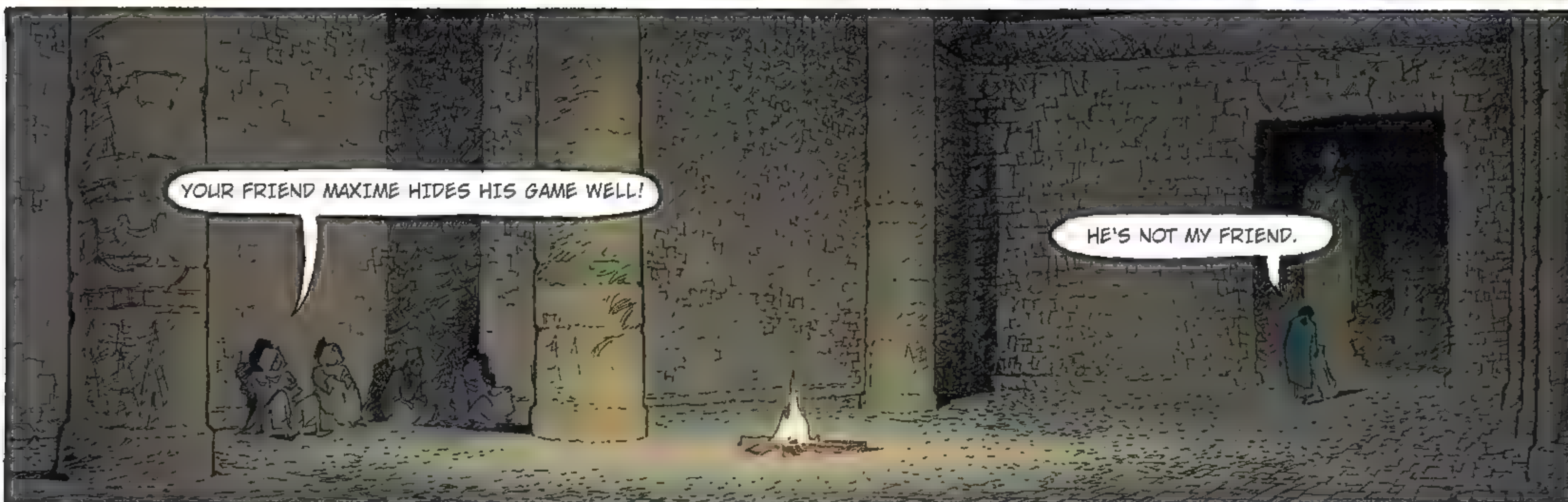
I CAN UNDERSTAND THAT.

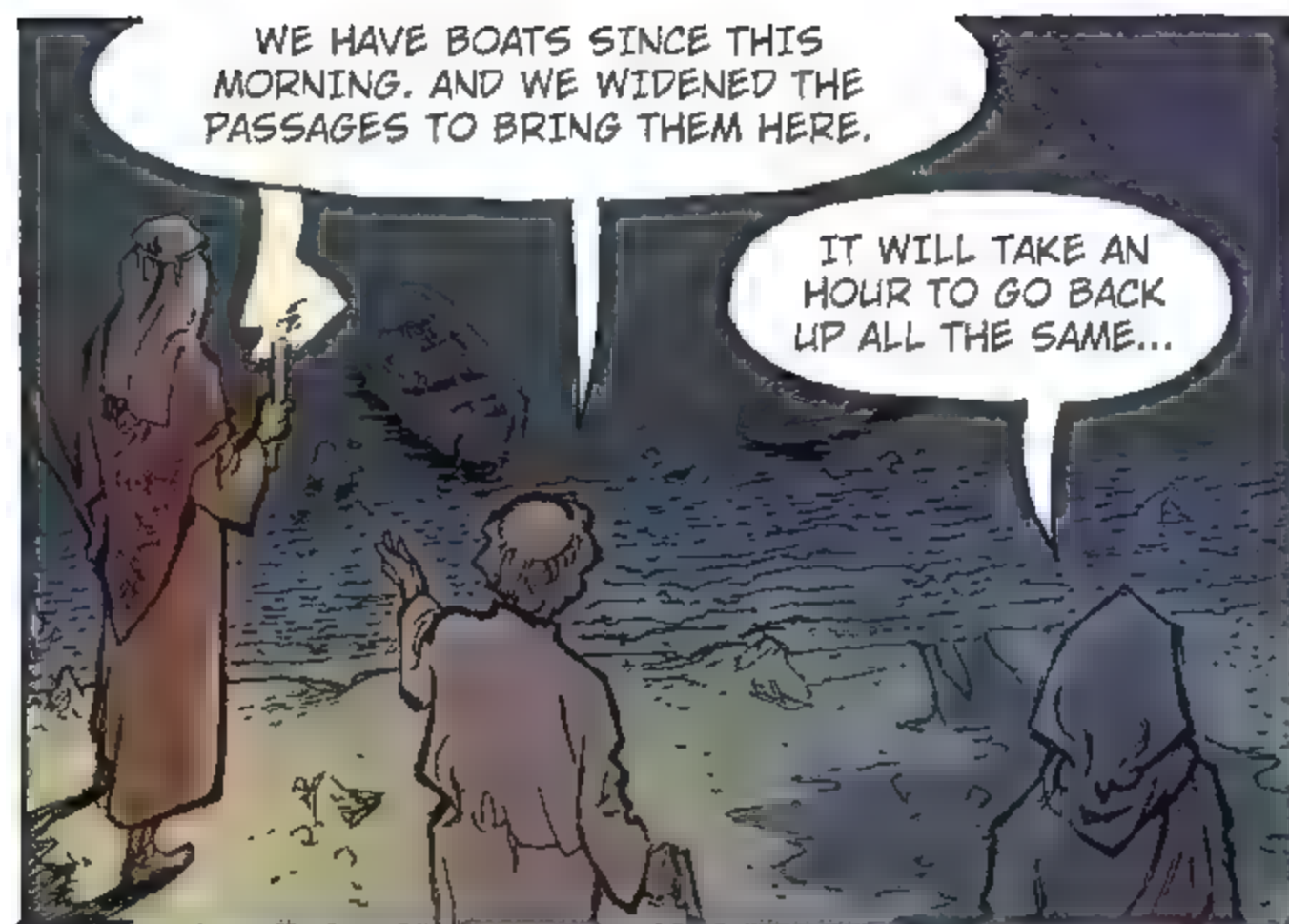
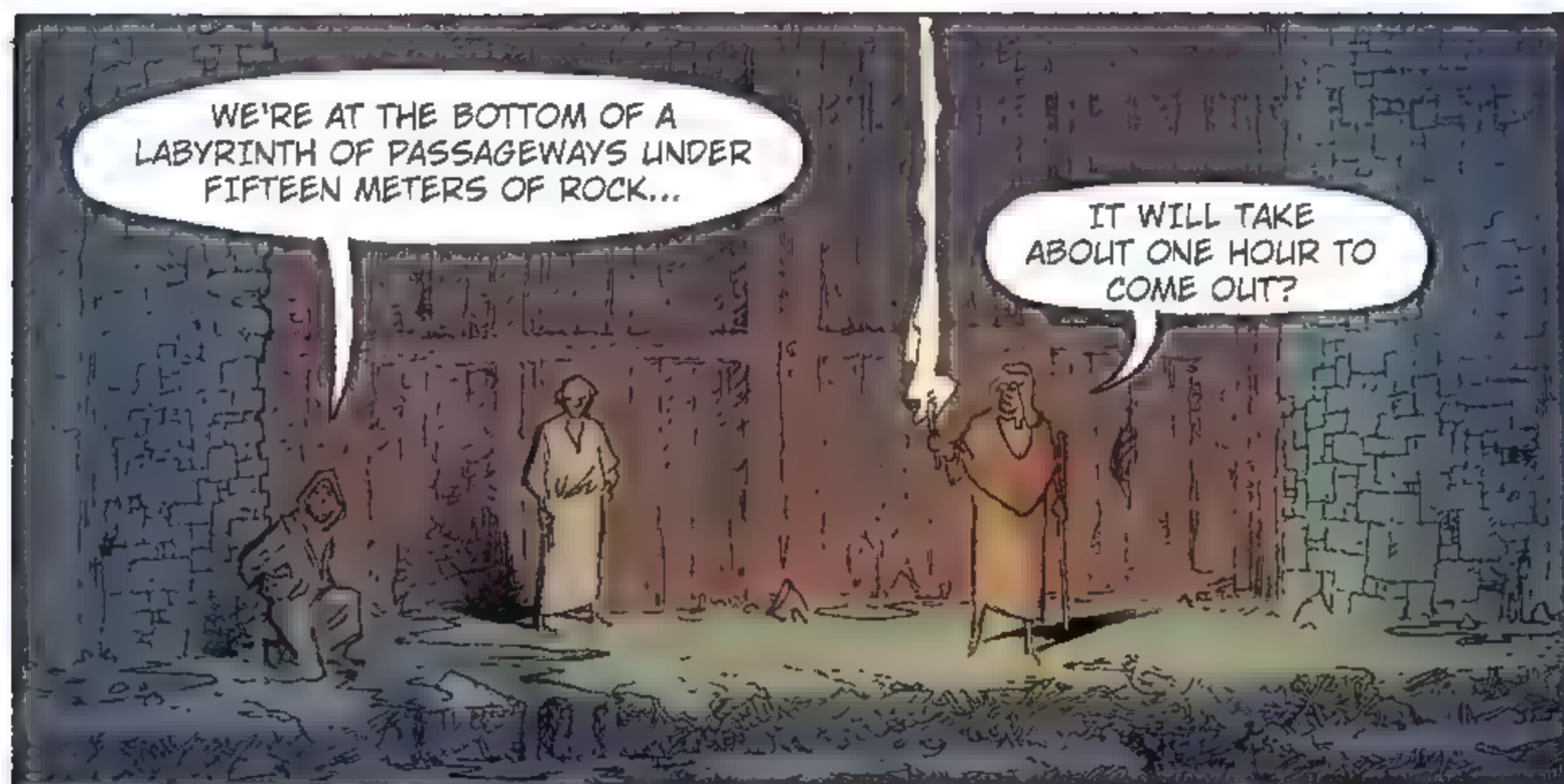


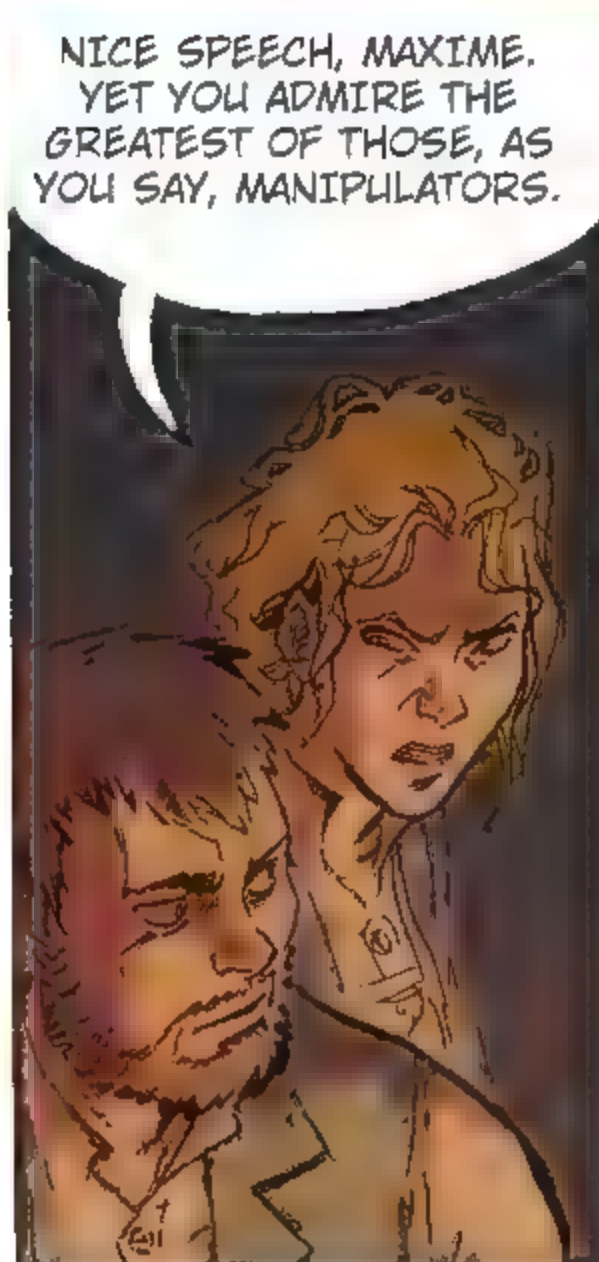
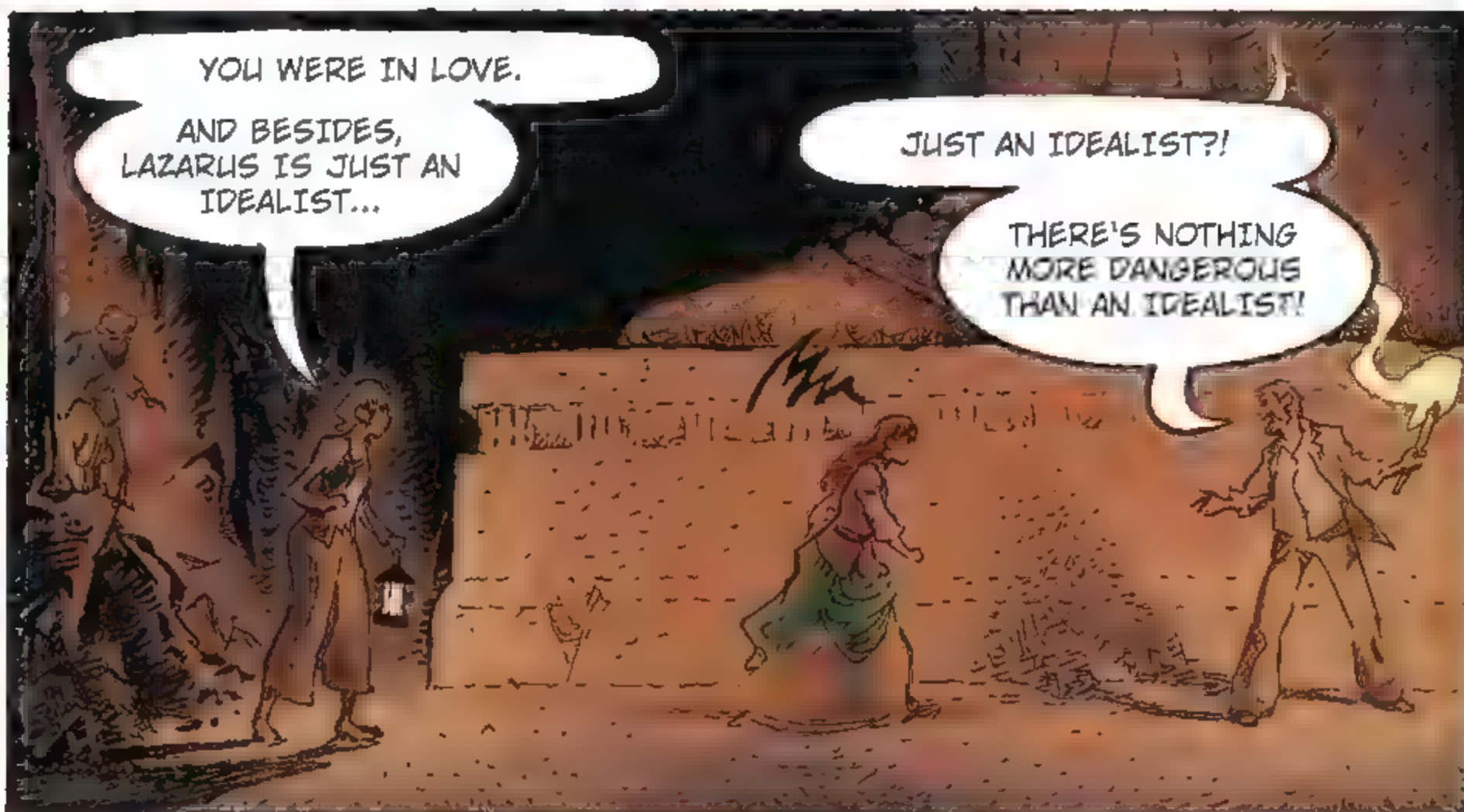
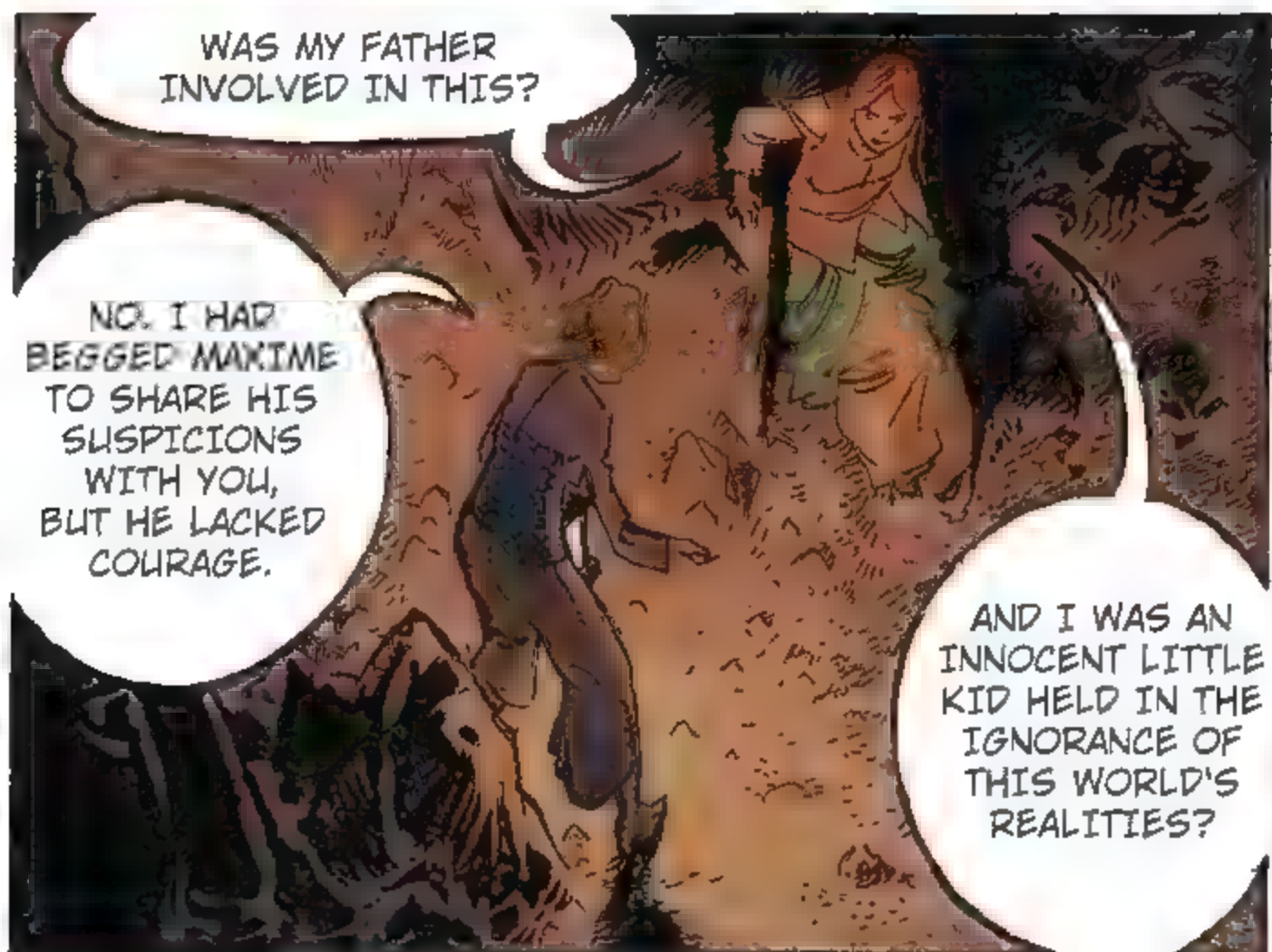
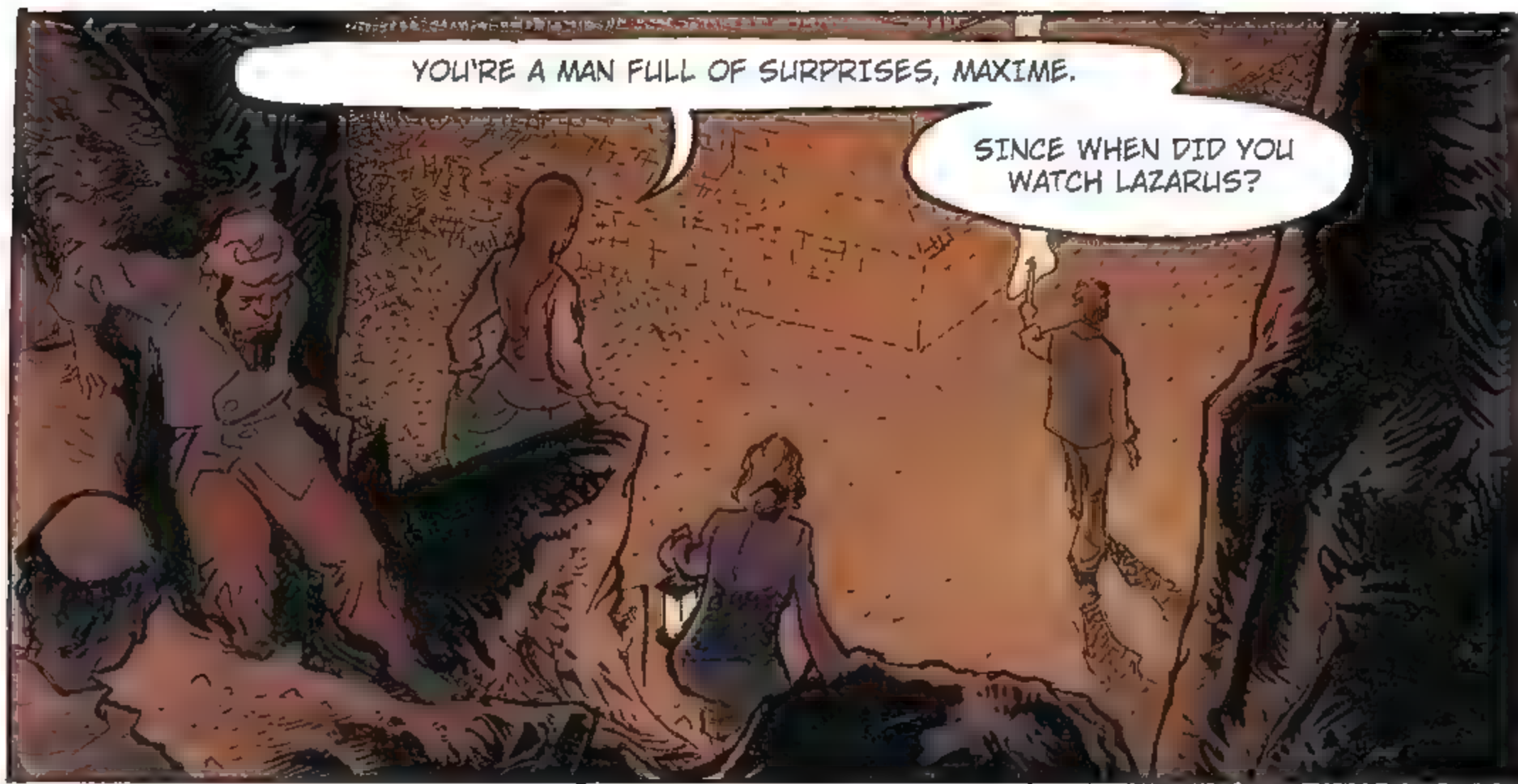
THEN SPEAK WITH LOUISE.

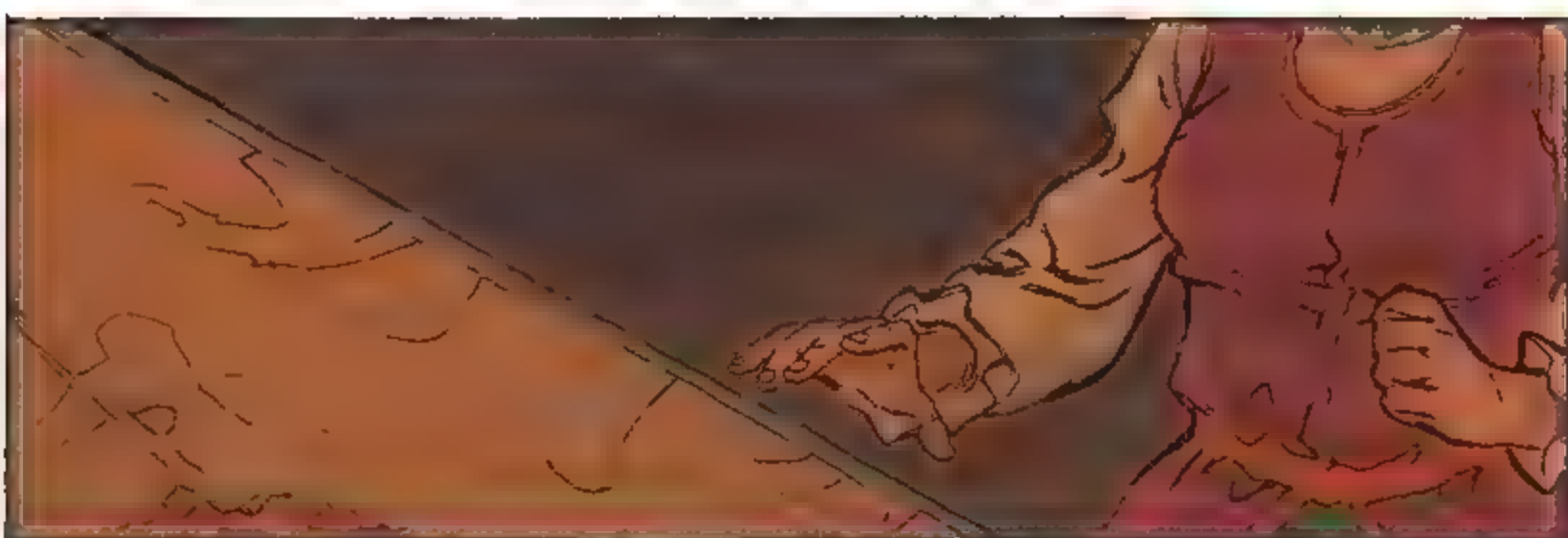
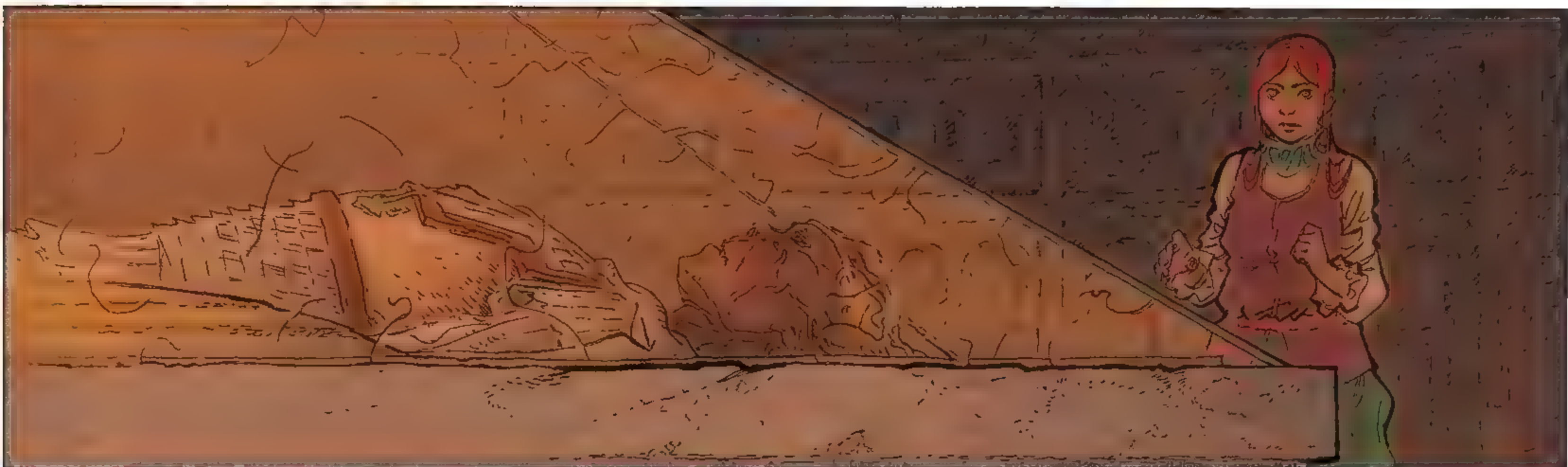
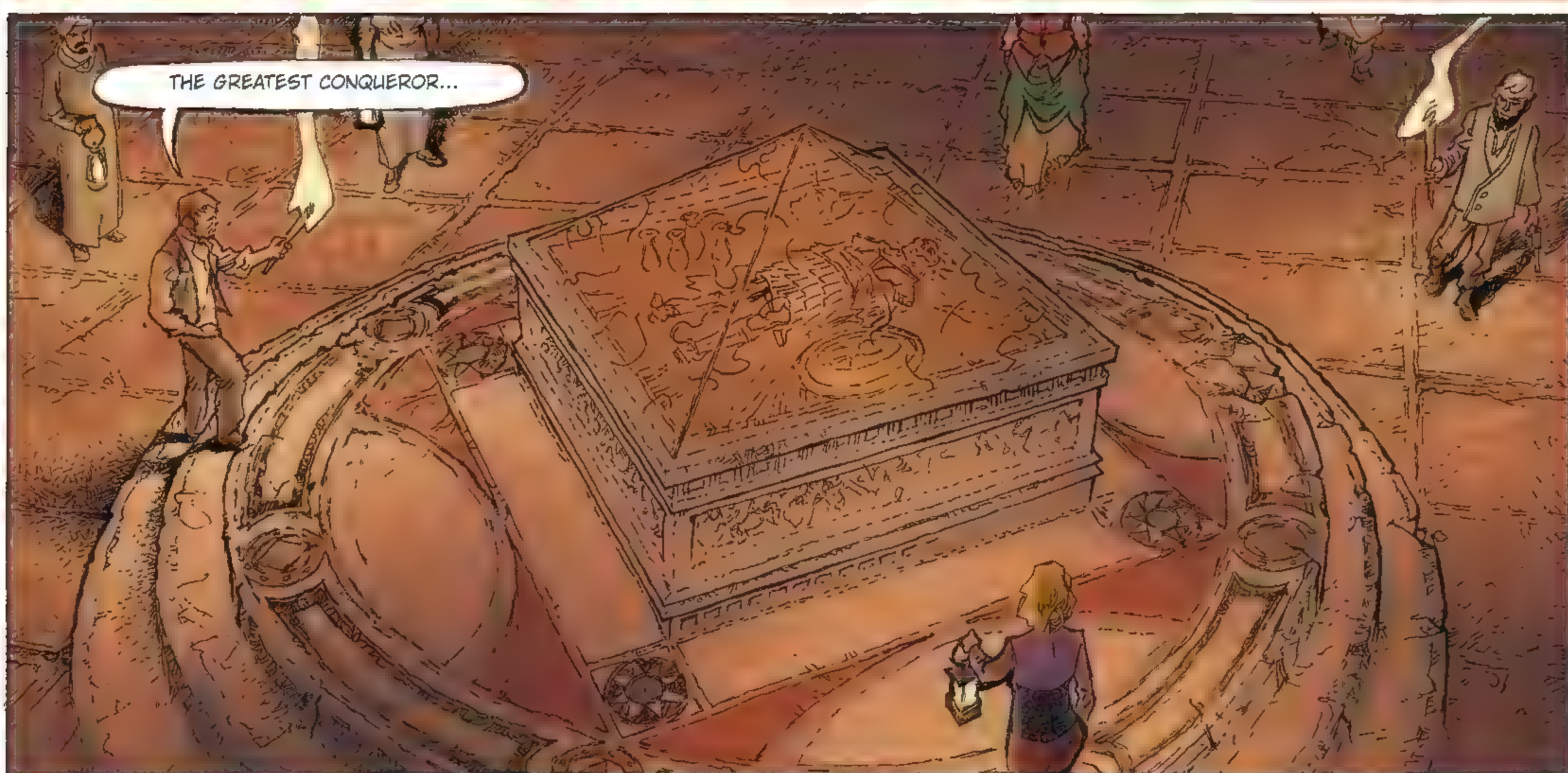
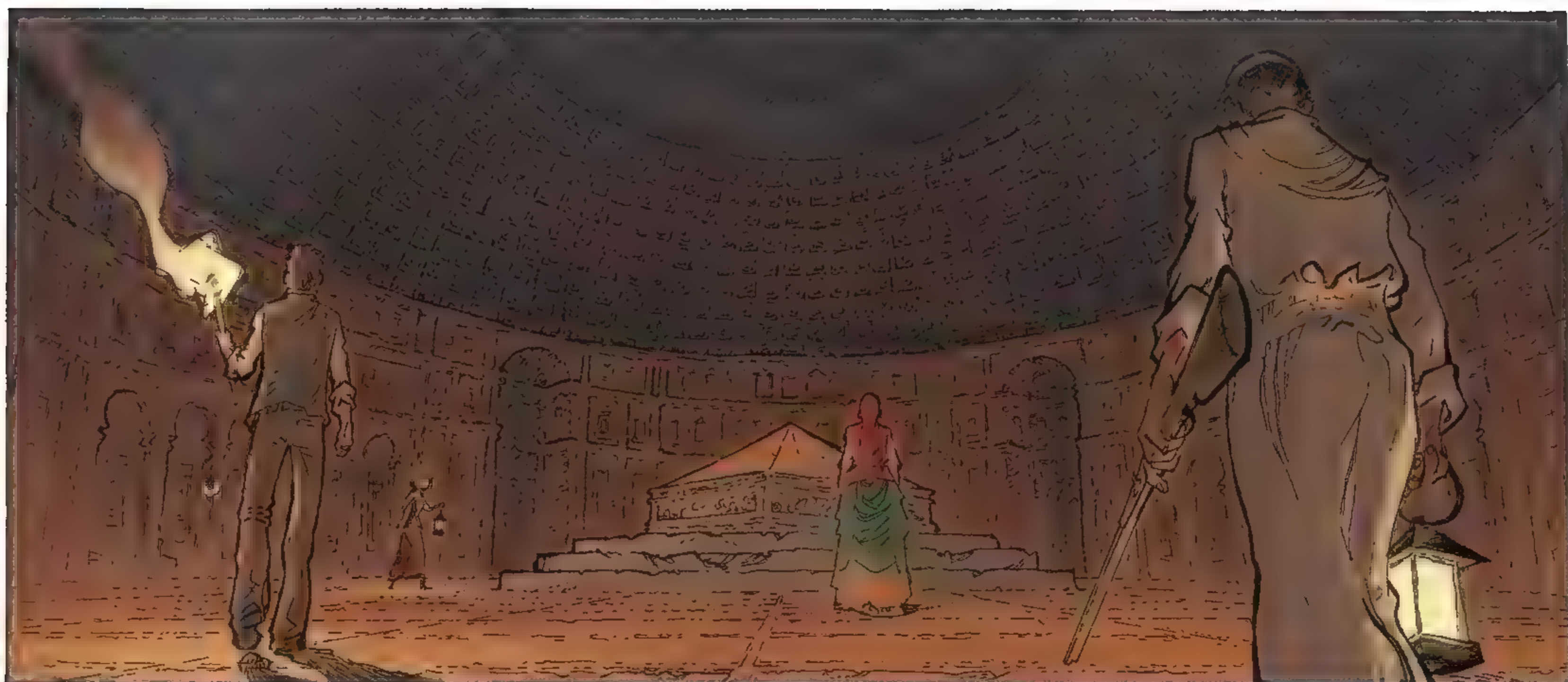


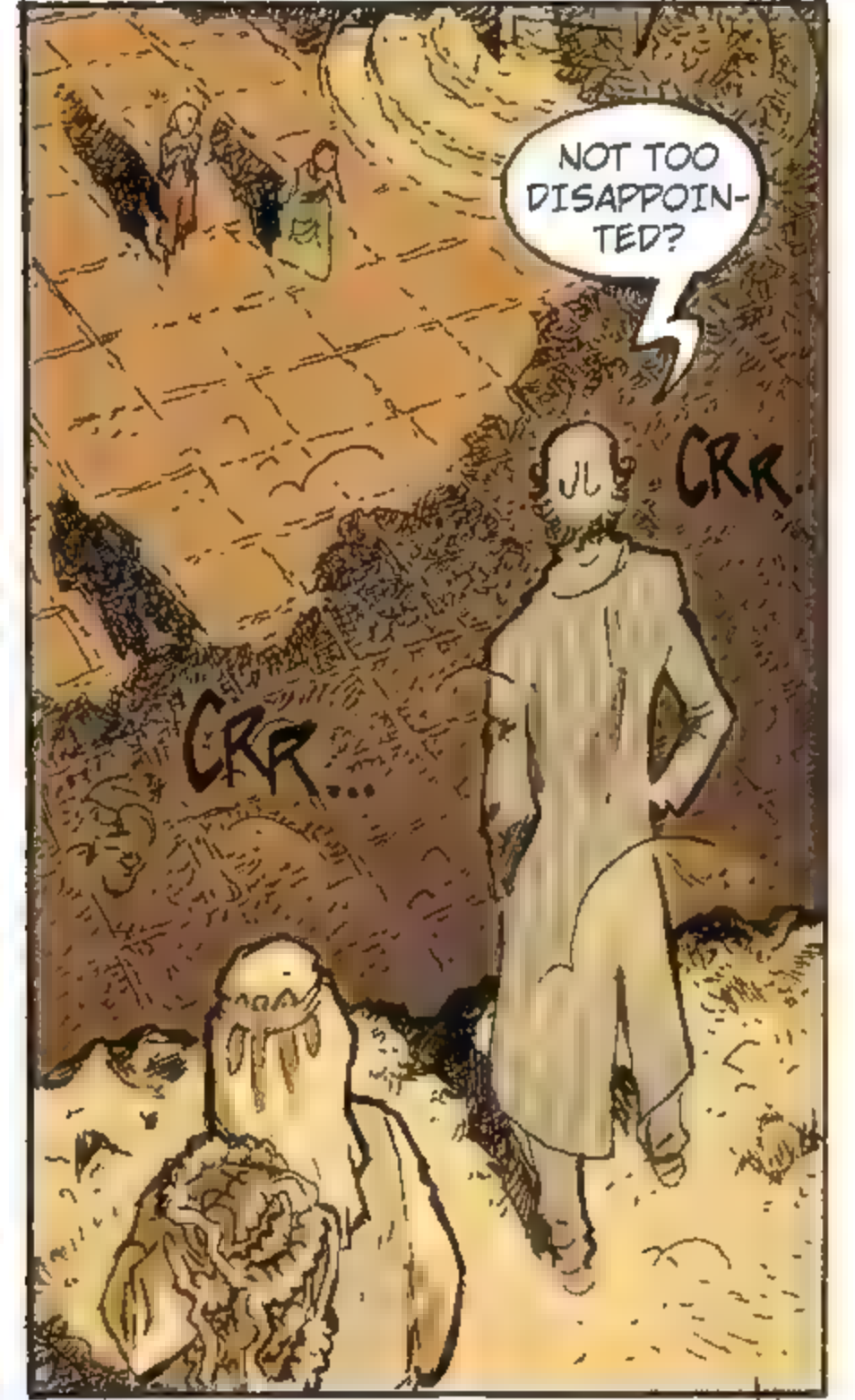
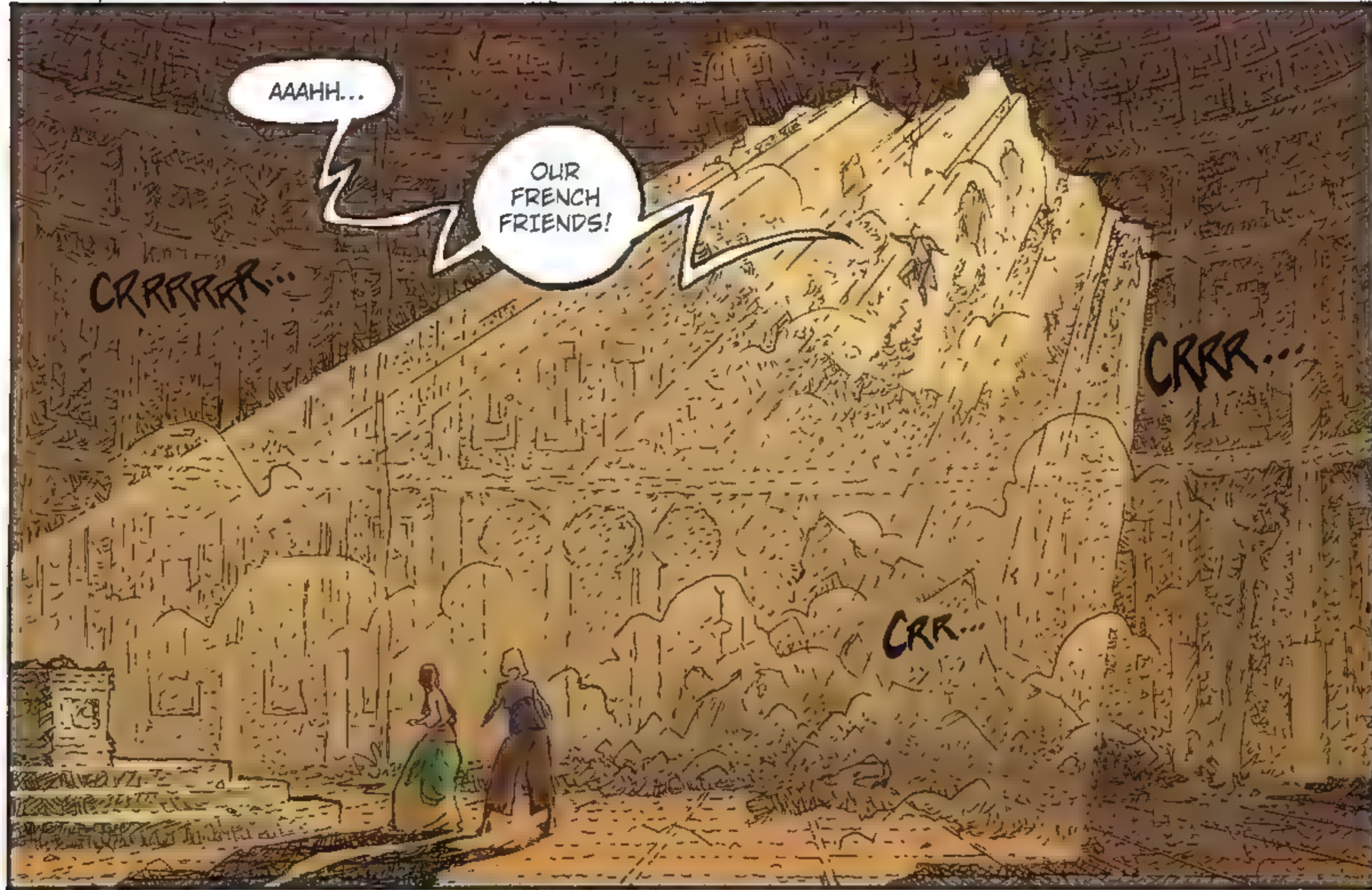
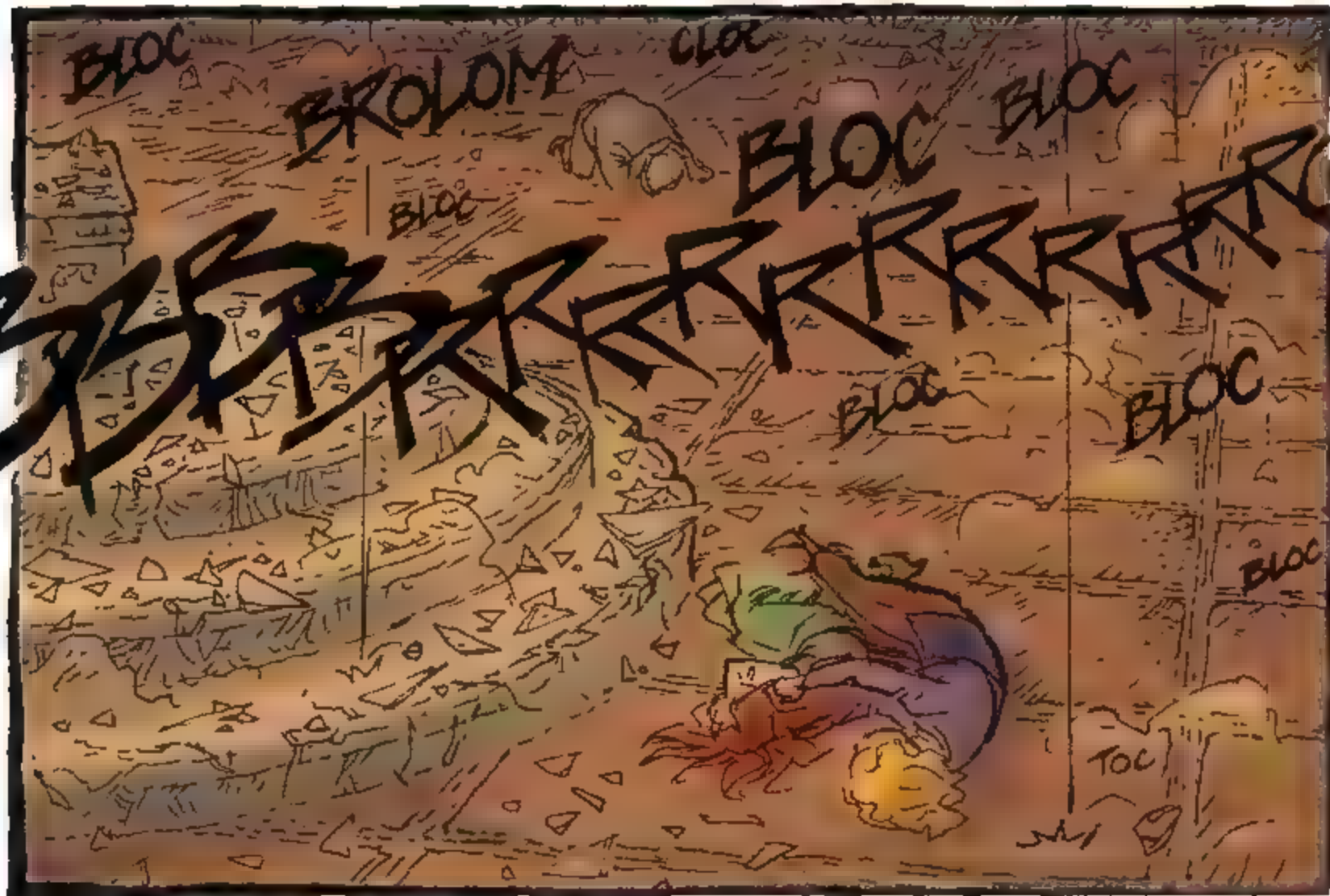
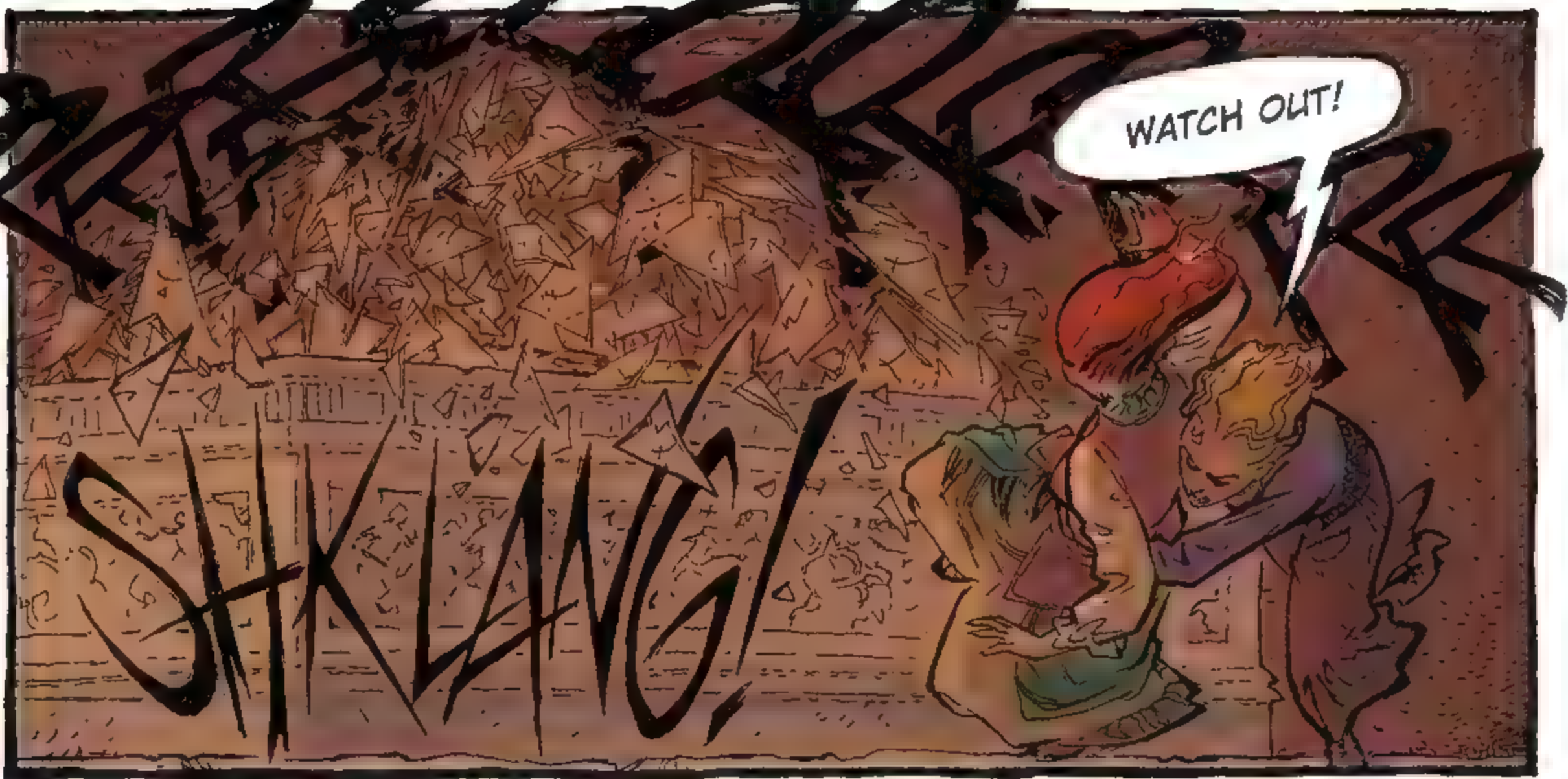
SHE HAS TO FORGIVE ME...













YOUR POWDER DOSE WASN'T VERY SUBTLE.

CRRR...

I HOPE FOR YOUR SAKE, MARCUS, THAT THE BODY WON'T BE DAMAGED BY THE DESTRUCTION OF THIS WONDERFUL SARCOPHAGUS.

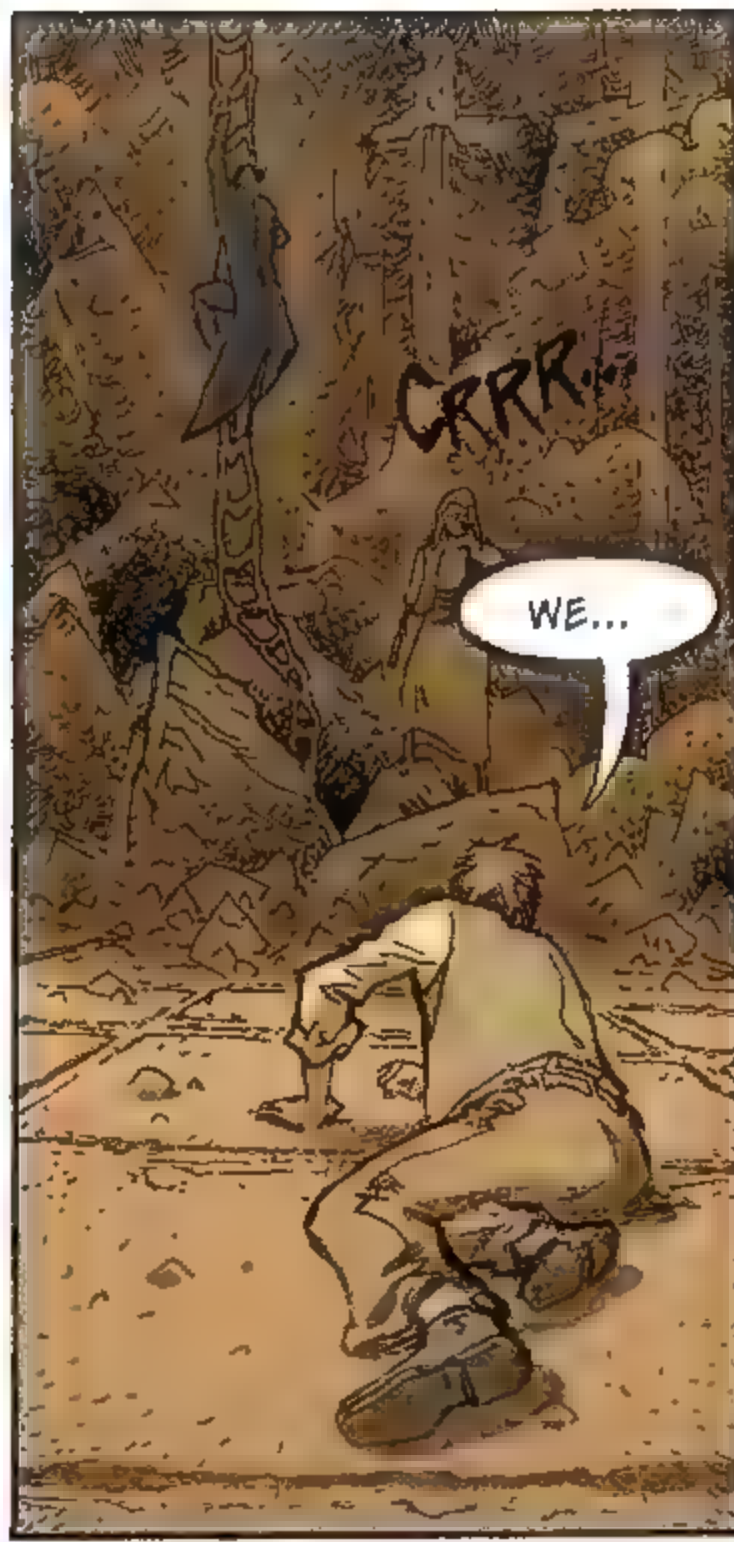


...THIS WILL BE DEDUCTED FROM YOUR SALARY.

WHAT?

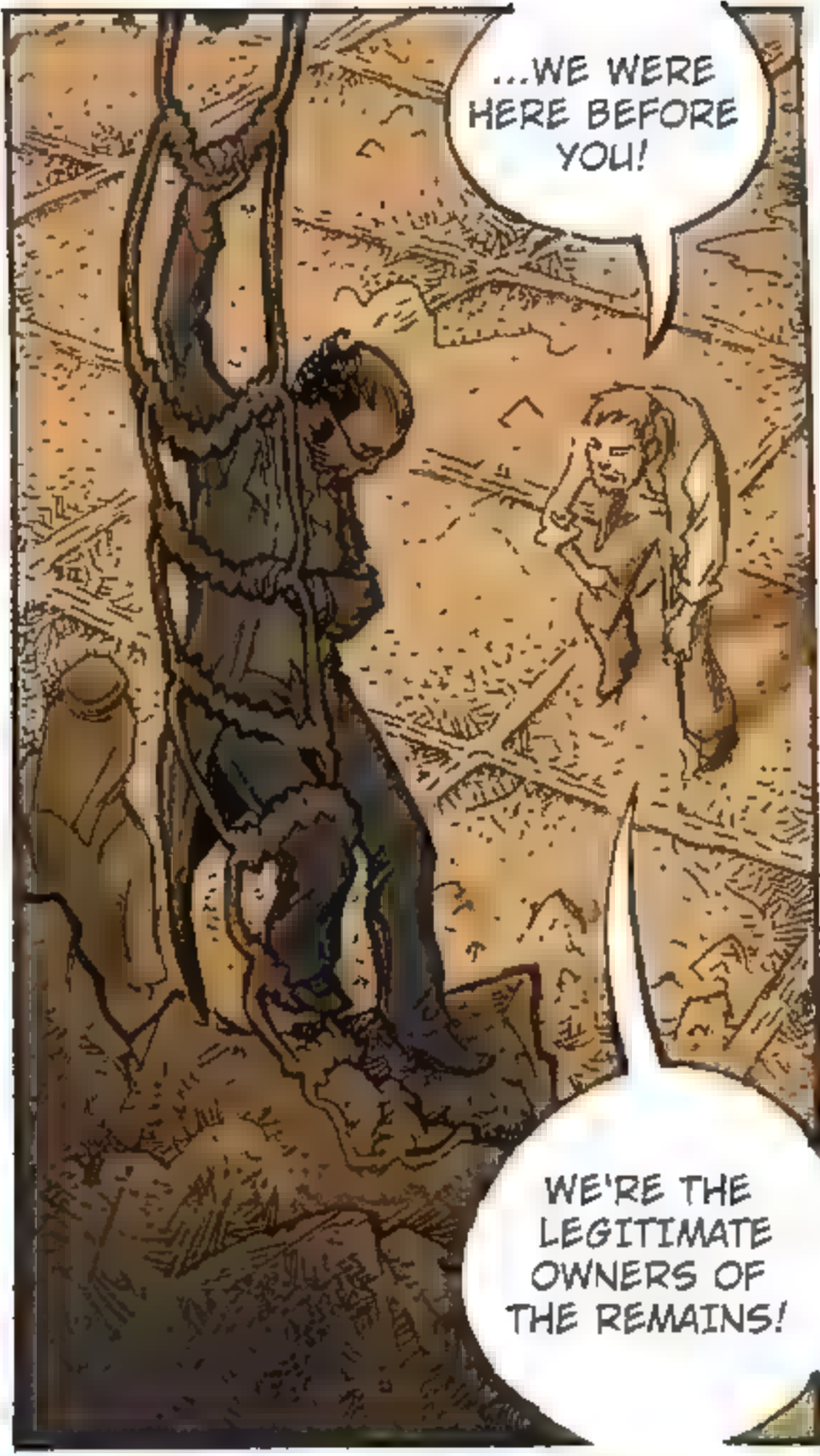
YOU HAVE COMPLAINTS?

NO?
GOOD...



CRRR...

WE...

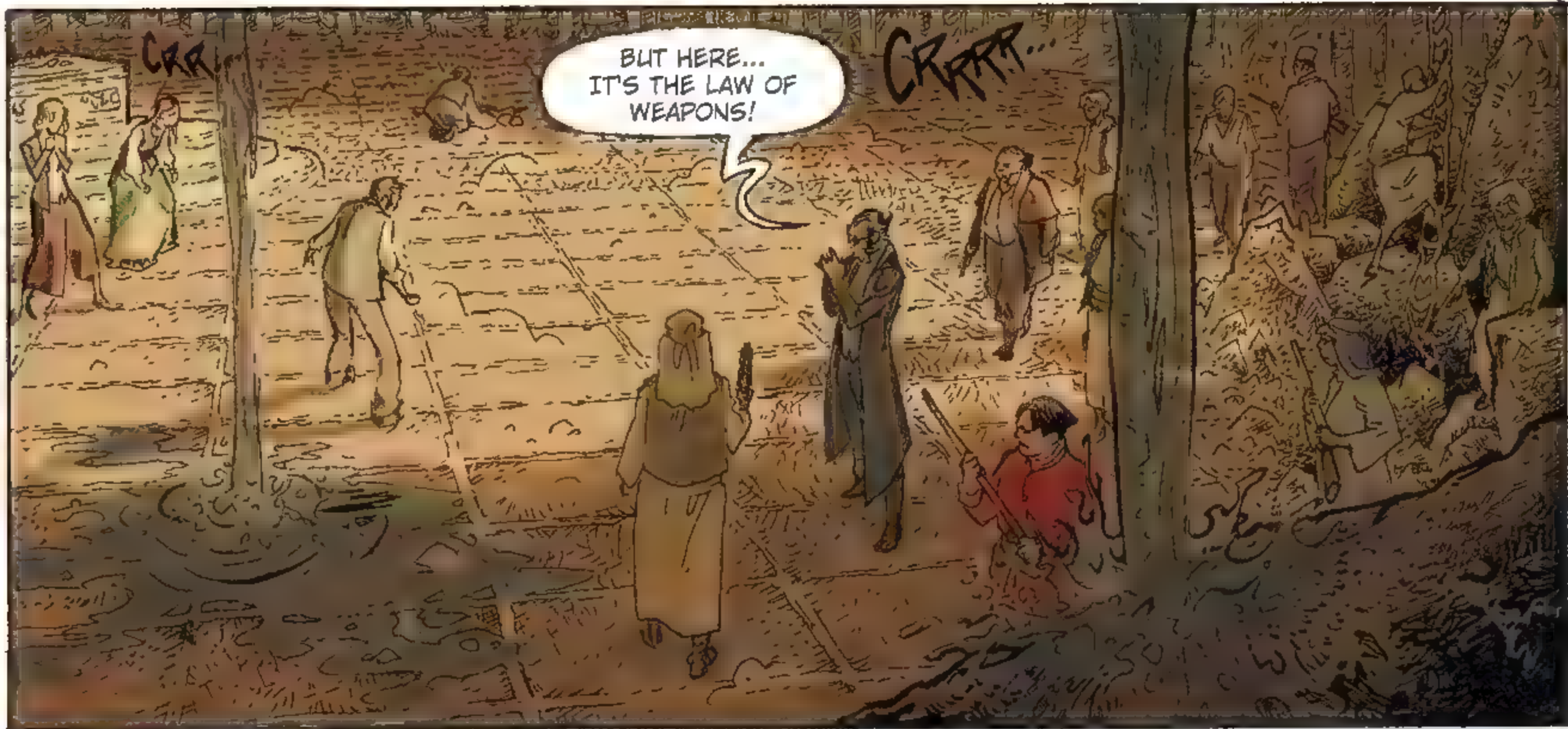


...WE WERE HERE BEFORE YOU!

WE'RE THE LEGITIMATE OWNERS OF THE REMAINS!

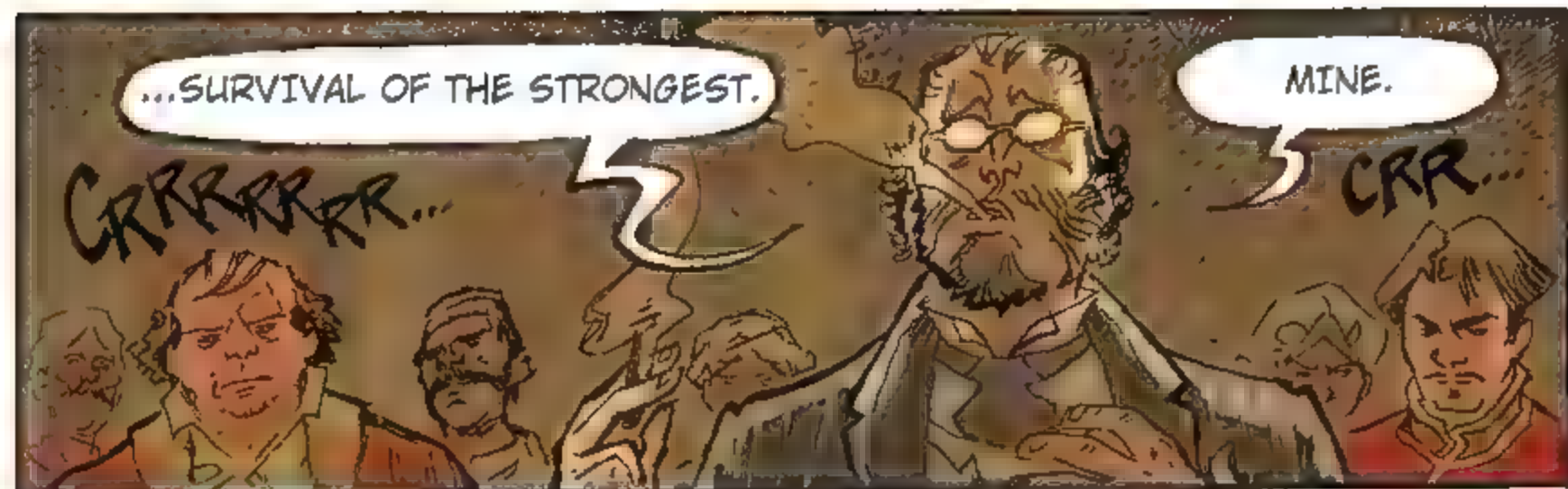


AH, IF WE WERE IN A CIVILIZED COUNTRY, I WOULD SURRENDER TO YOUR ARGUMENTS!



BUT HERE... IT'S THE LAW OF WEAPONS!

CRRR...



...SURVIVAL OF THE STRONGEST.

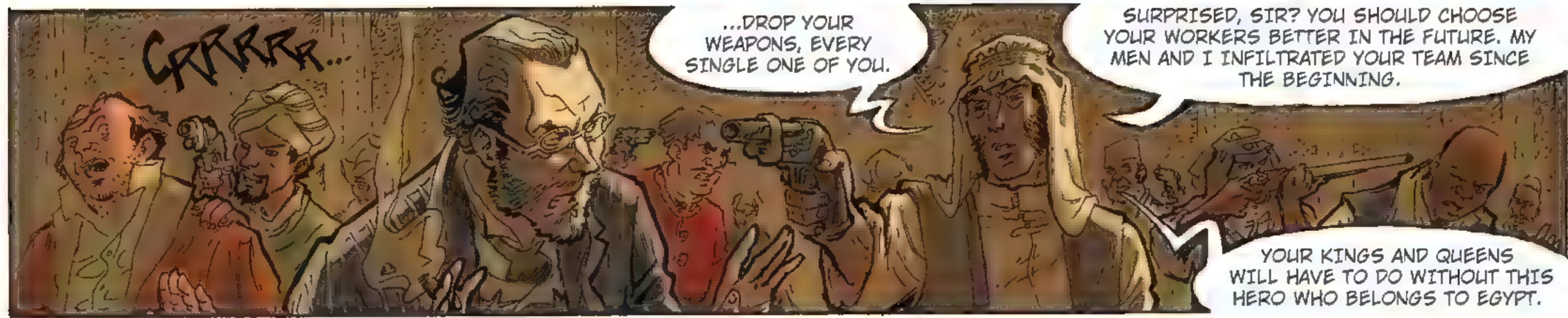
MINE.

CRR...



AND THAT OF HER GRACIOUS MAJEST...

CLIC

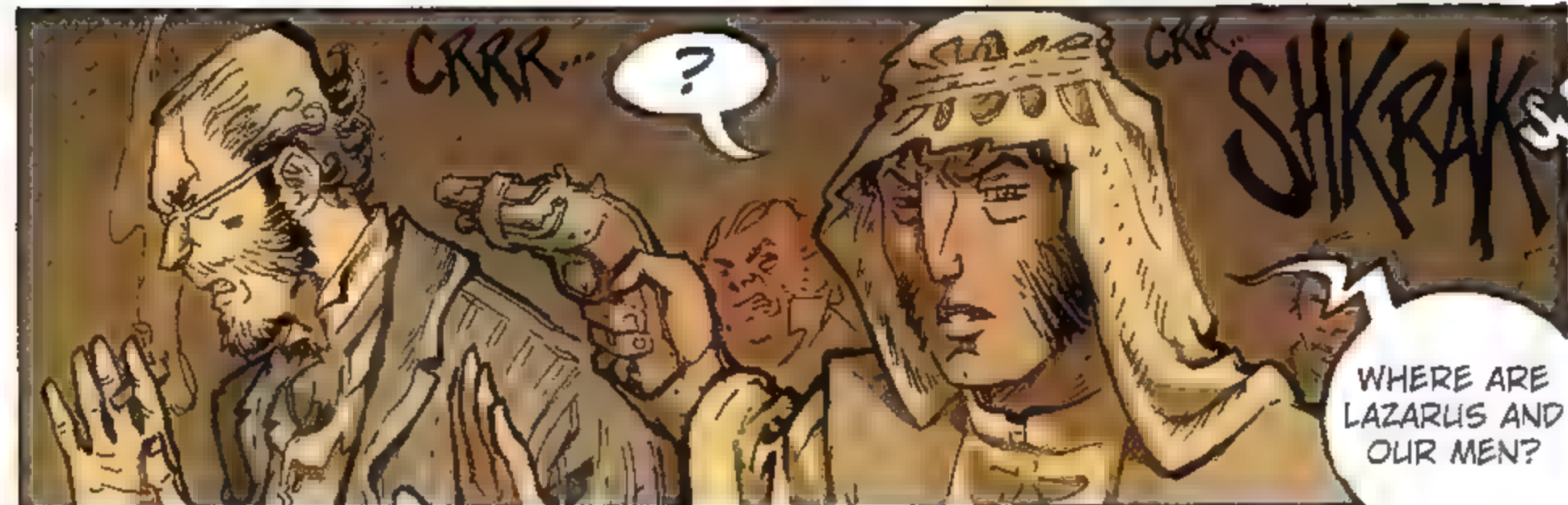


CRRRRR...

...DROP YOUR WEAPONS, EVERY SINGLE ONE OF YOU.

SURPRISED, SIR? YOU SHOULD CHOOSE YOUR WORKERS BETTER IN THE FUTURE. MY MEN AND I INFILTRATED YOUR TEAM SINCE THE BEGINNING.

YOUR KINGS AND QUEENS WILL HAVE TO DO WITHOUT THIS HERO WHO BELONGS TO EGYPT.



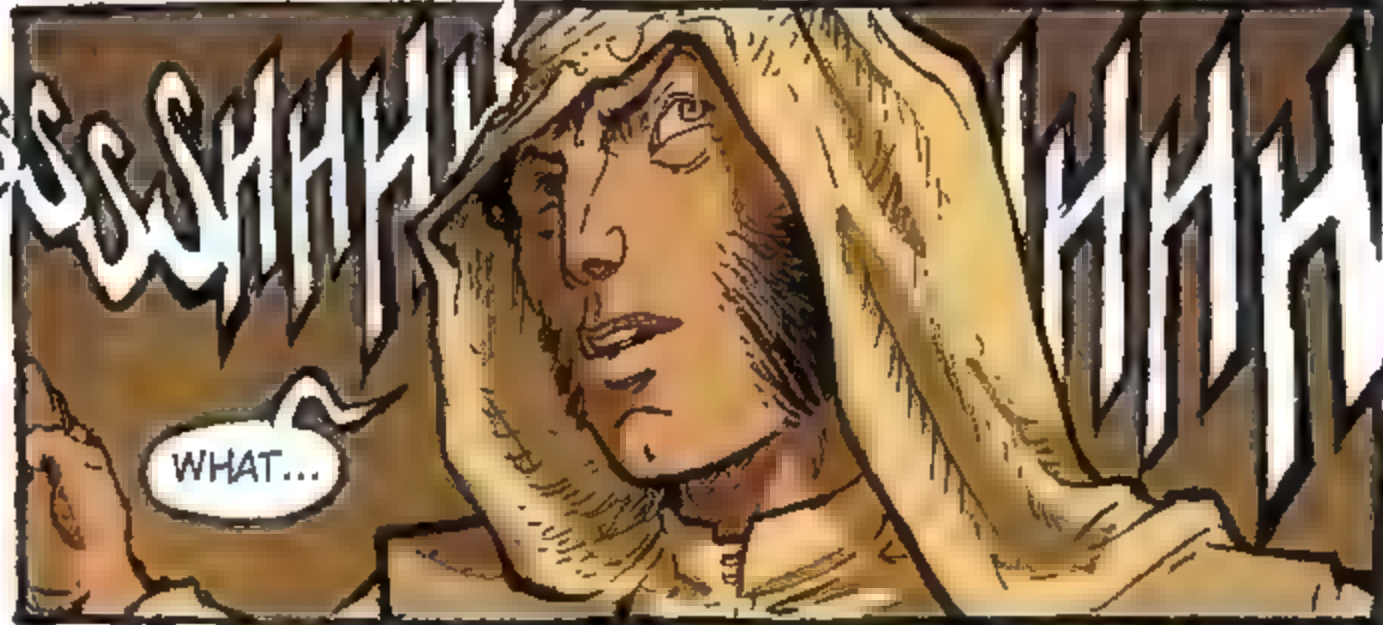
CRRR...

?

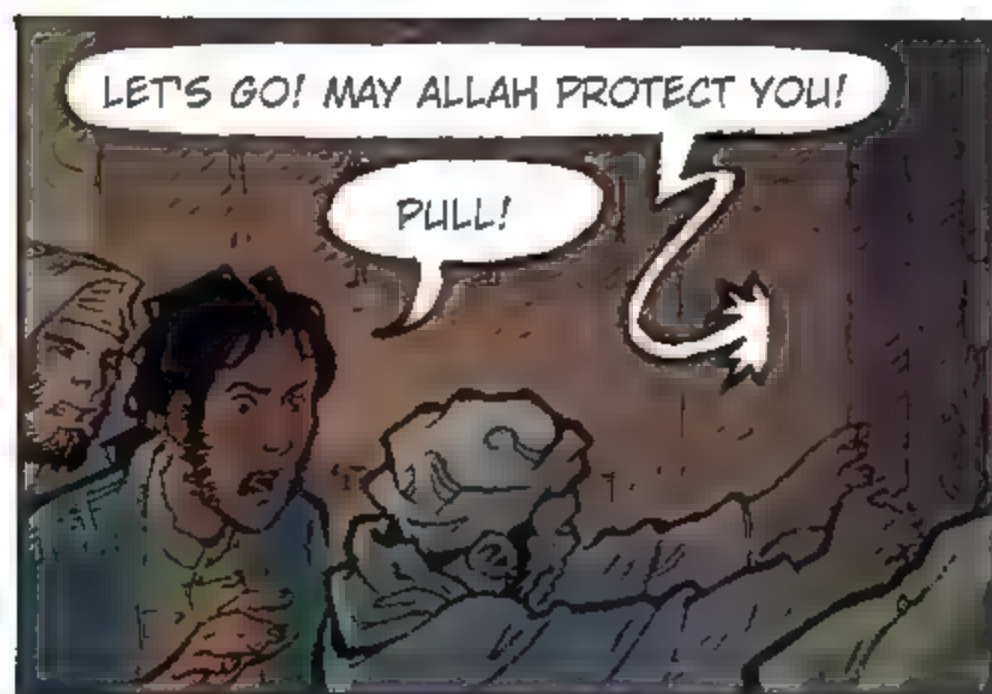
CRR...

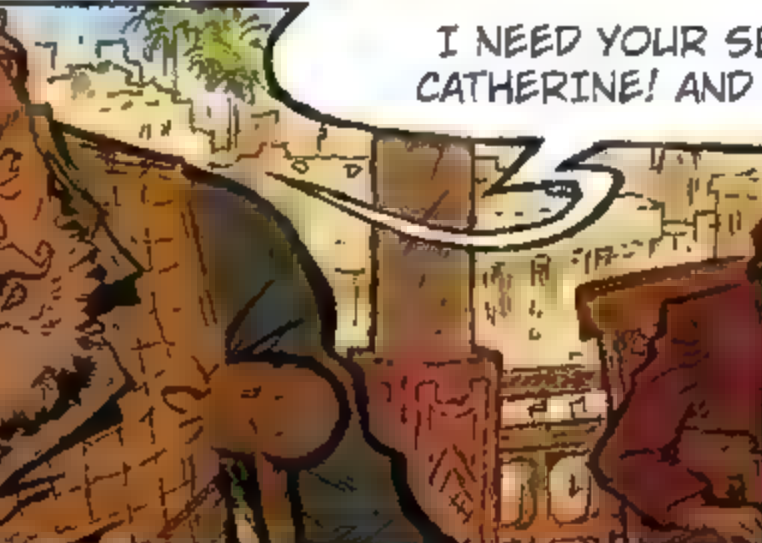
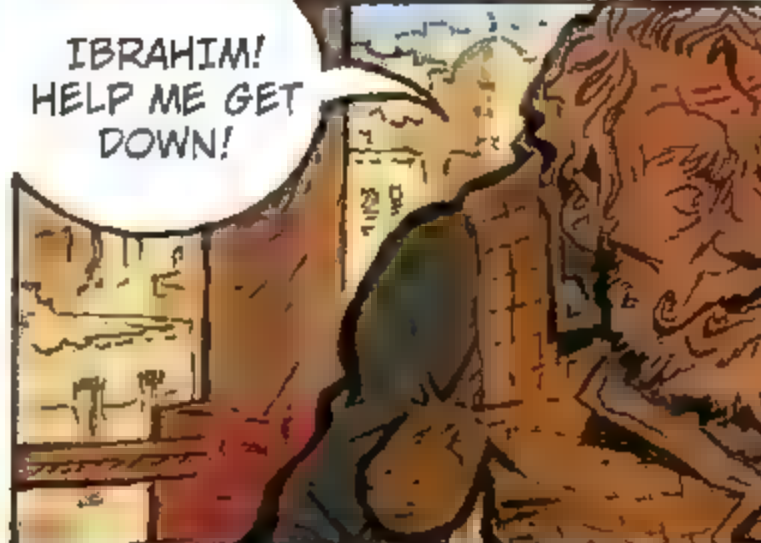
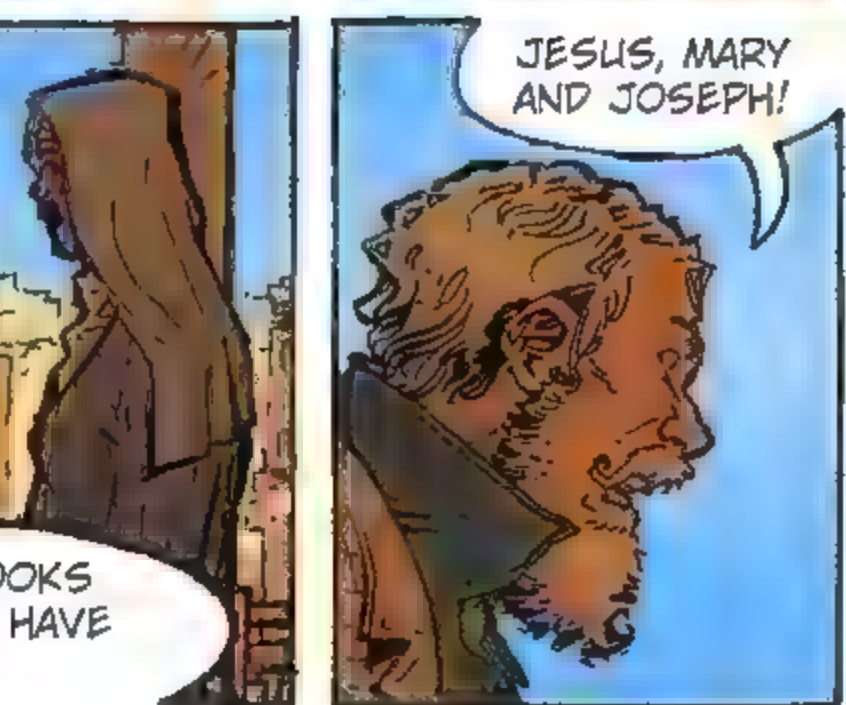
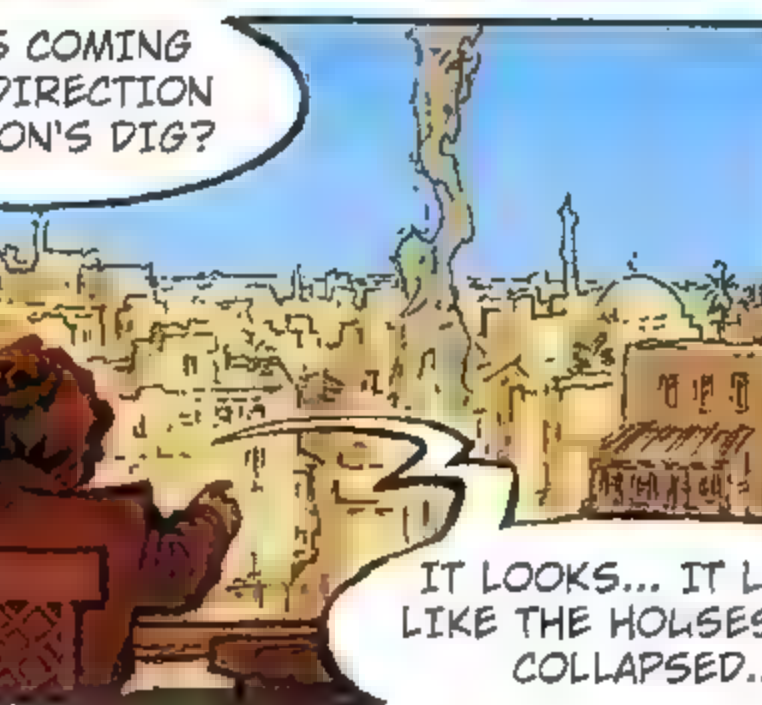
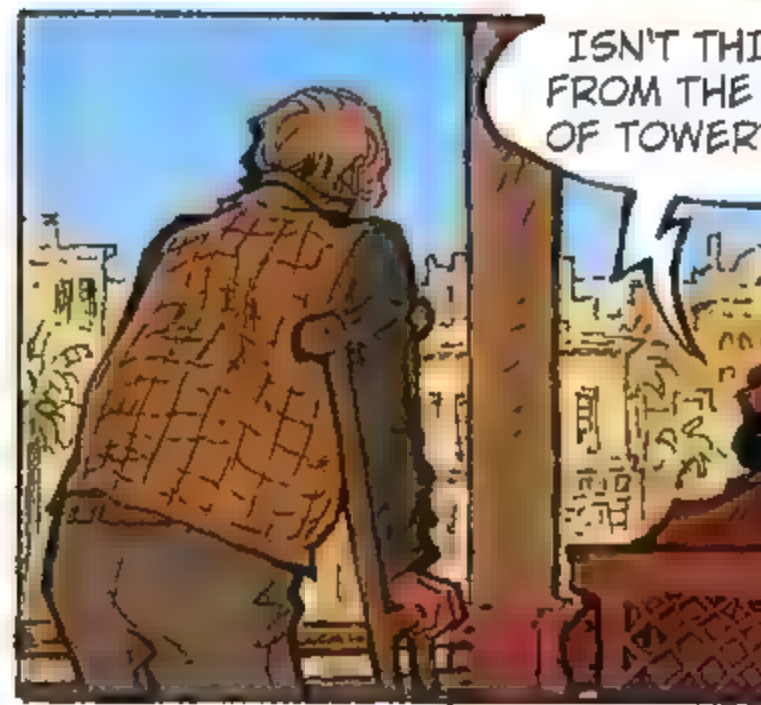
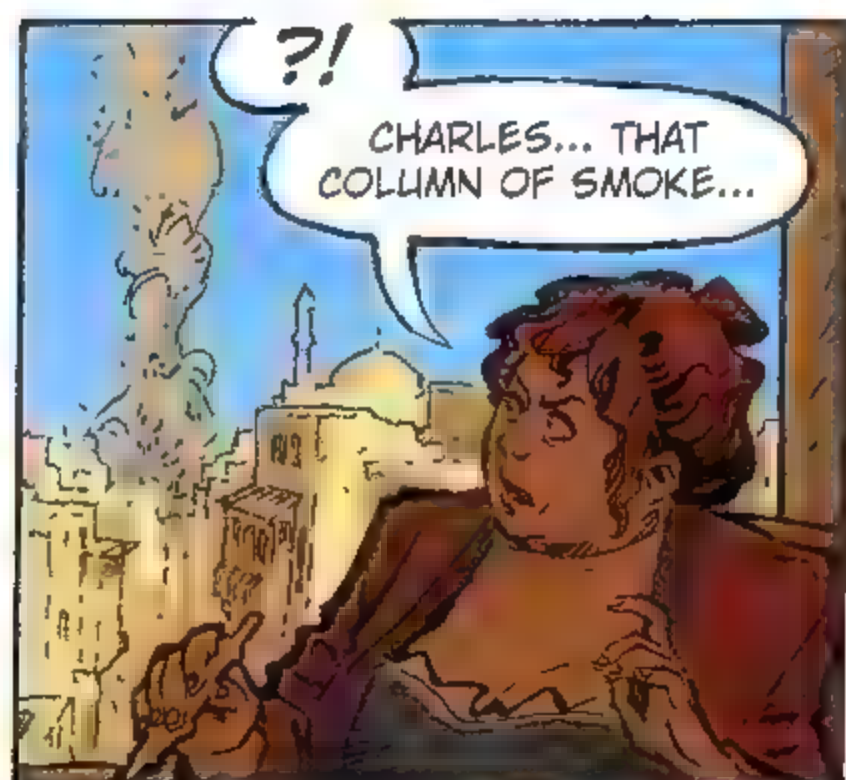
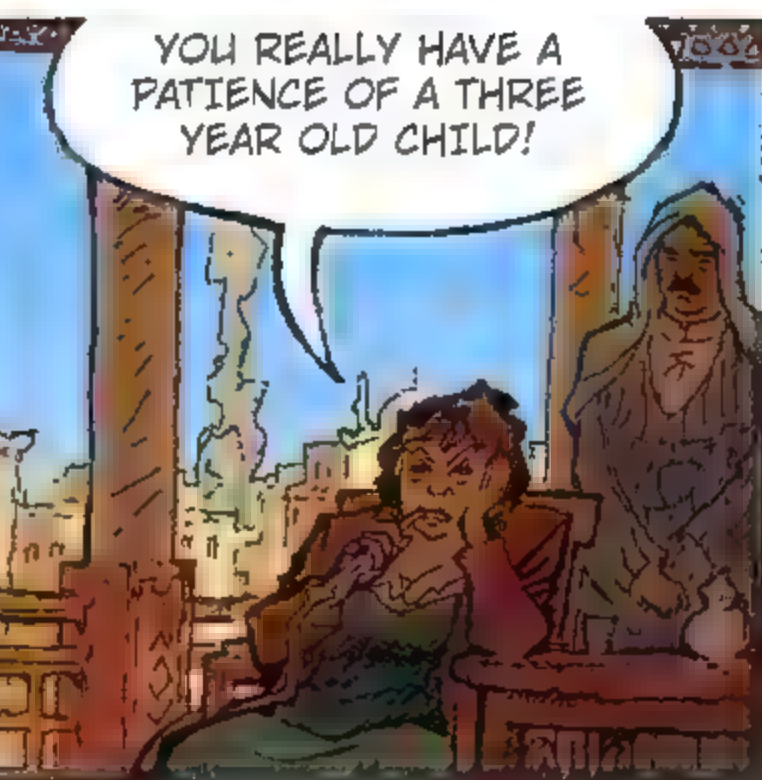
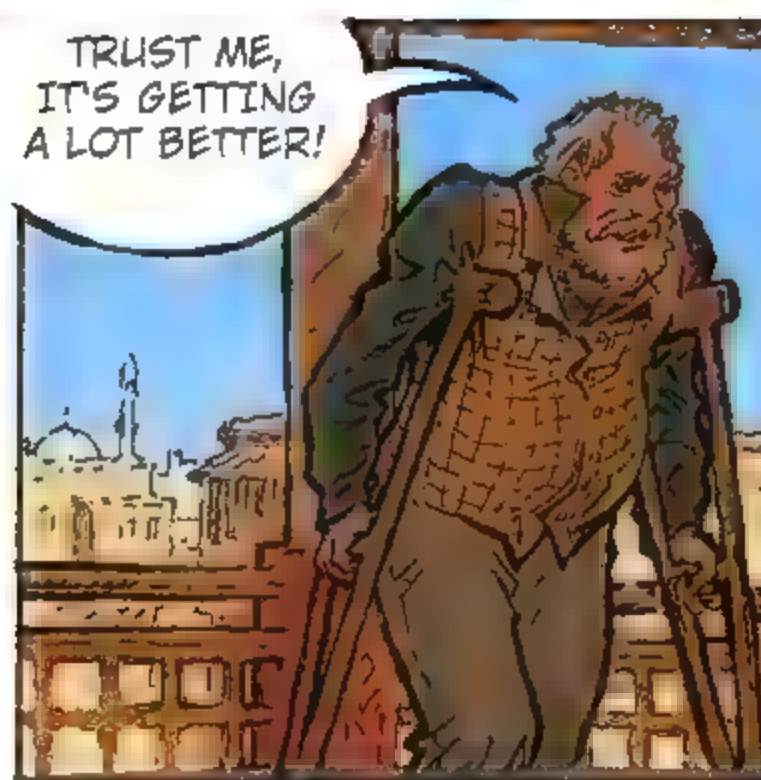
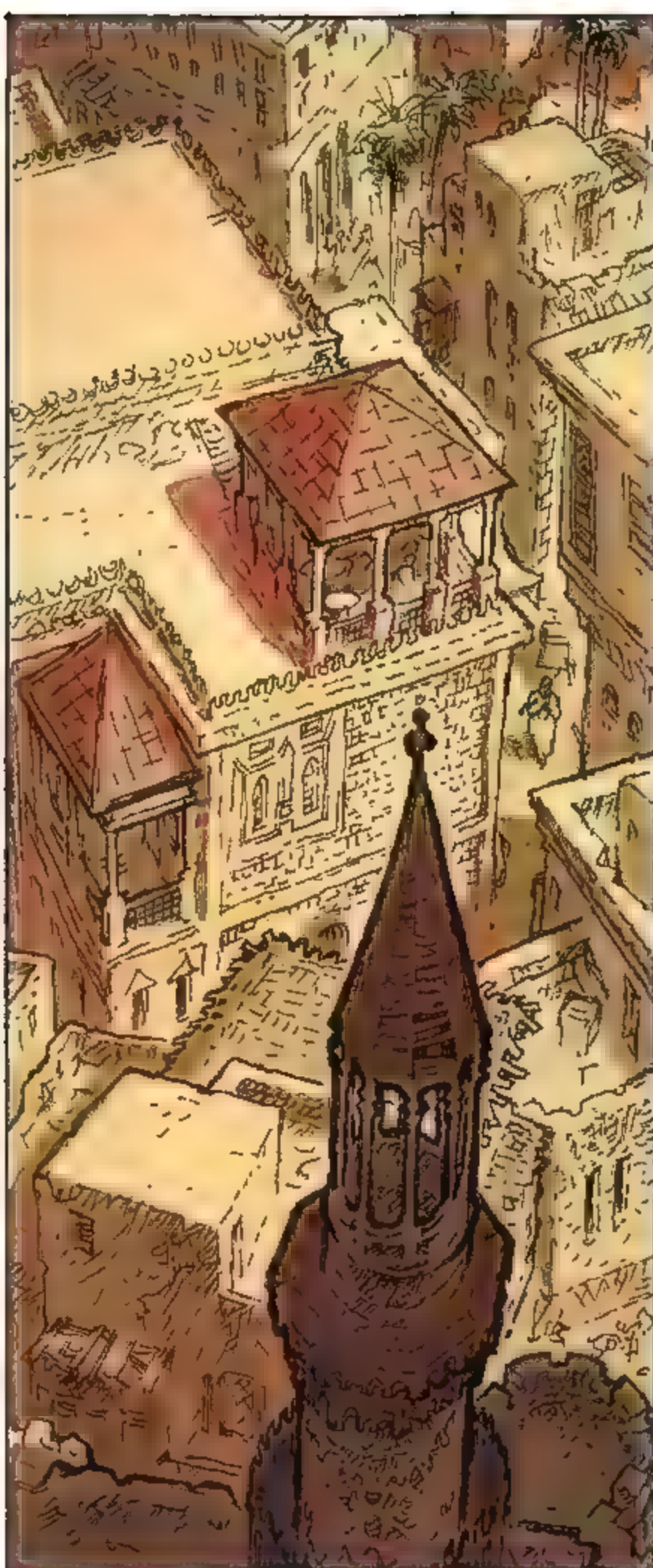
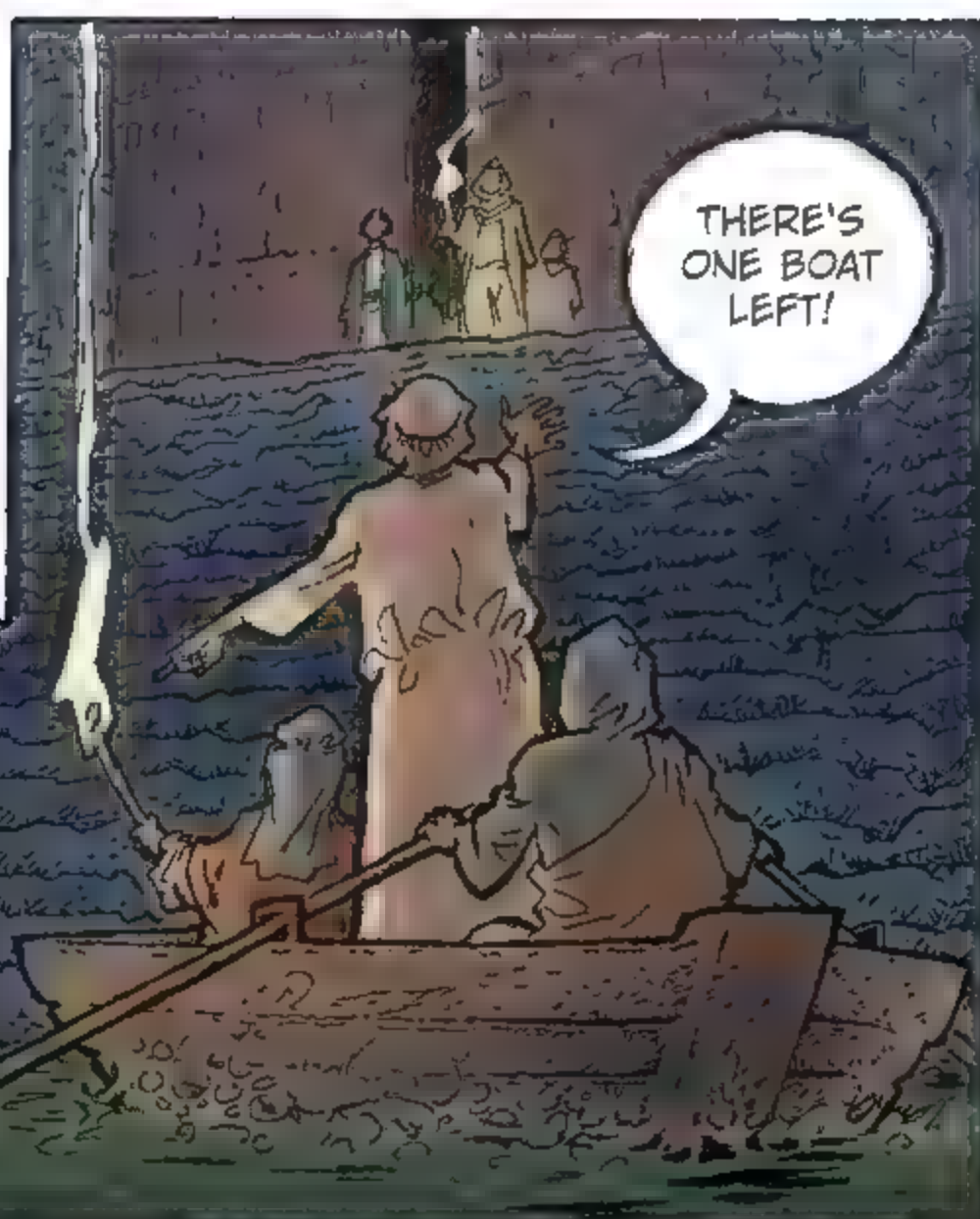
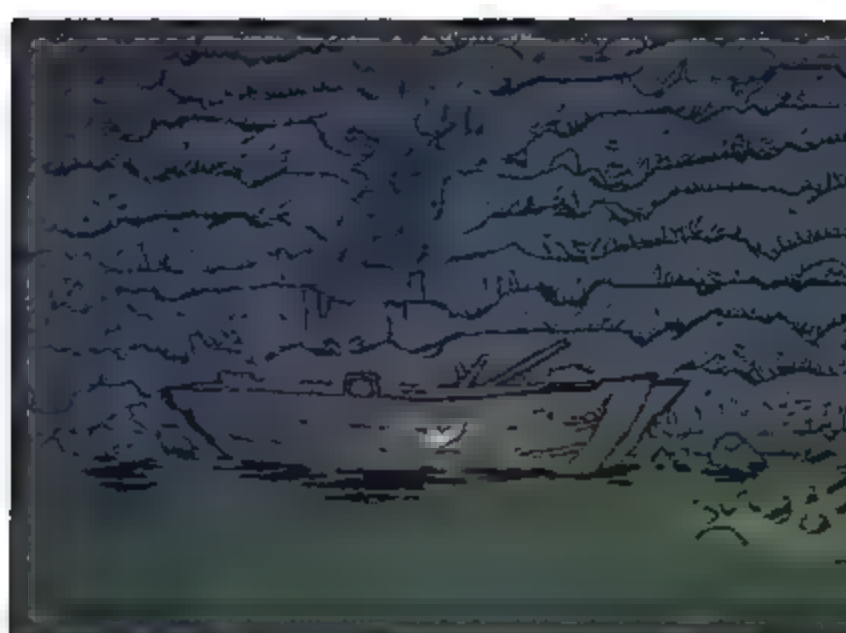
SHKRAK...

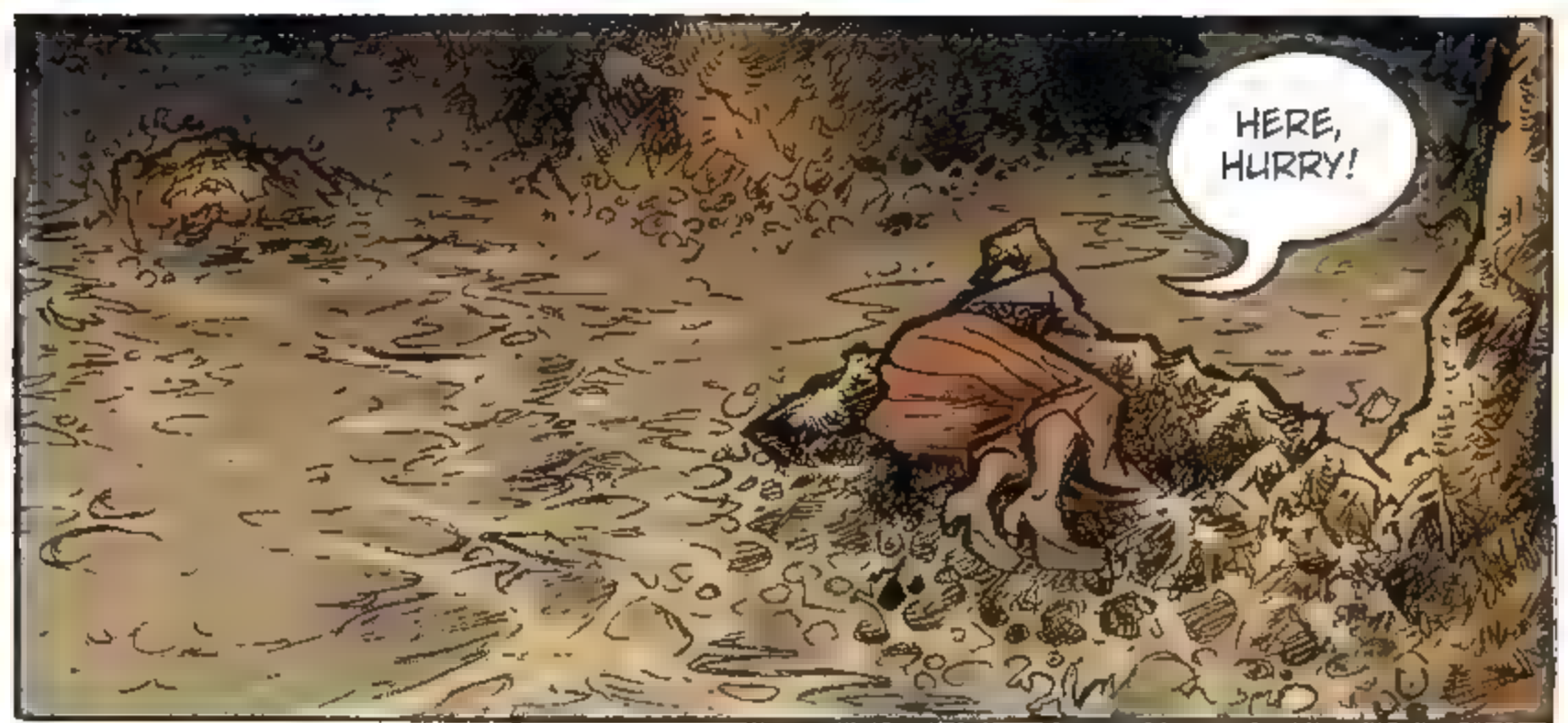
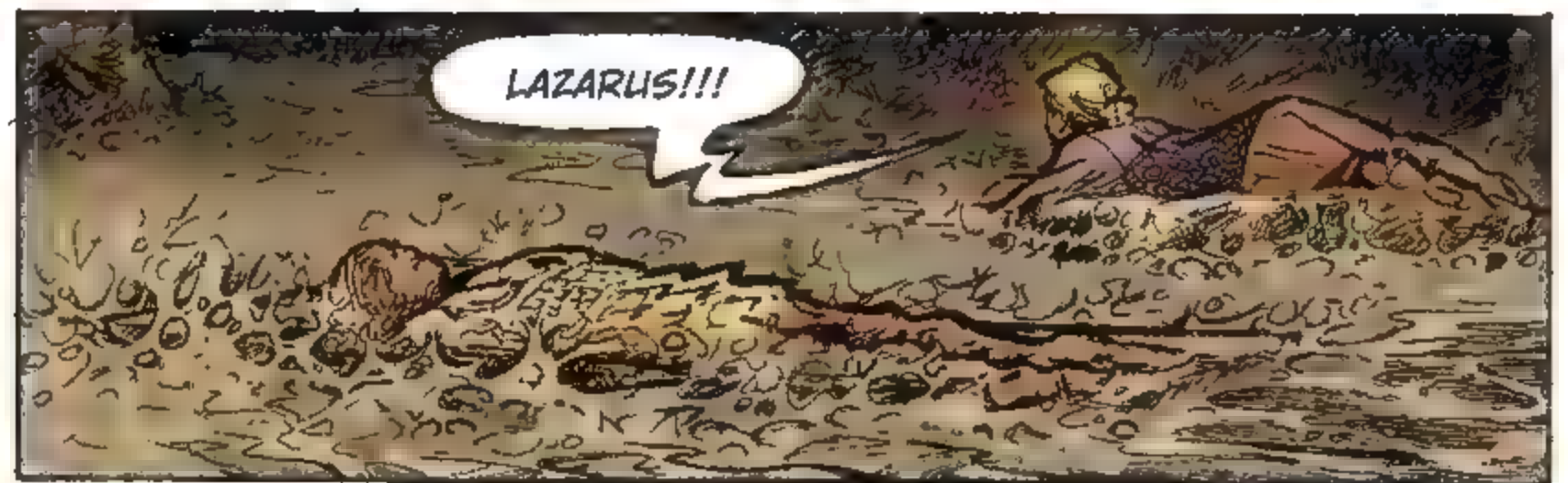
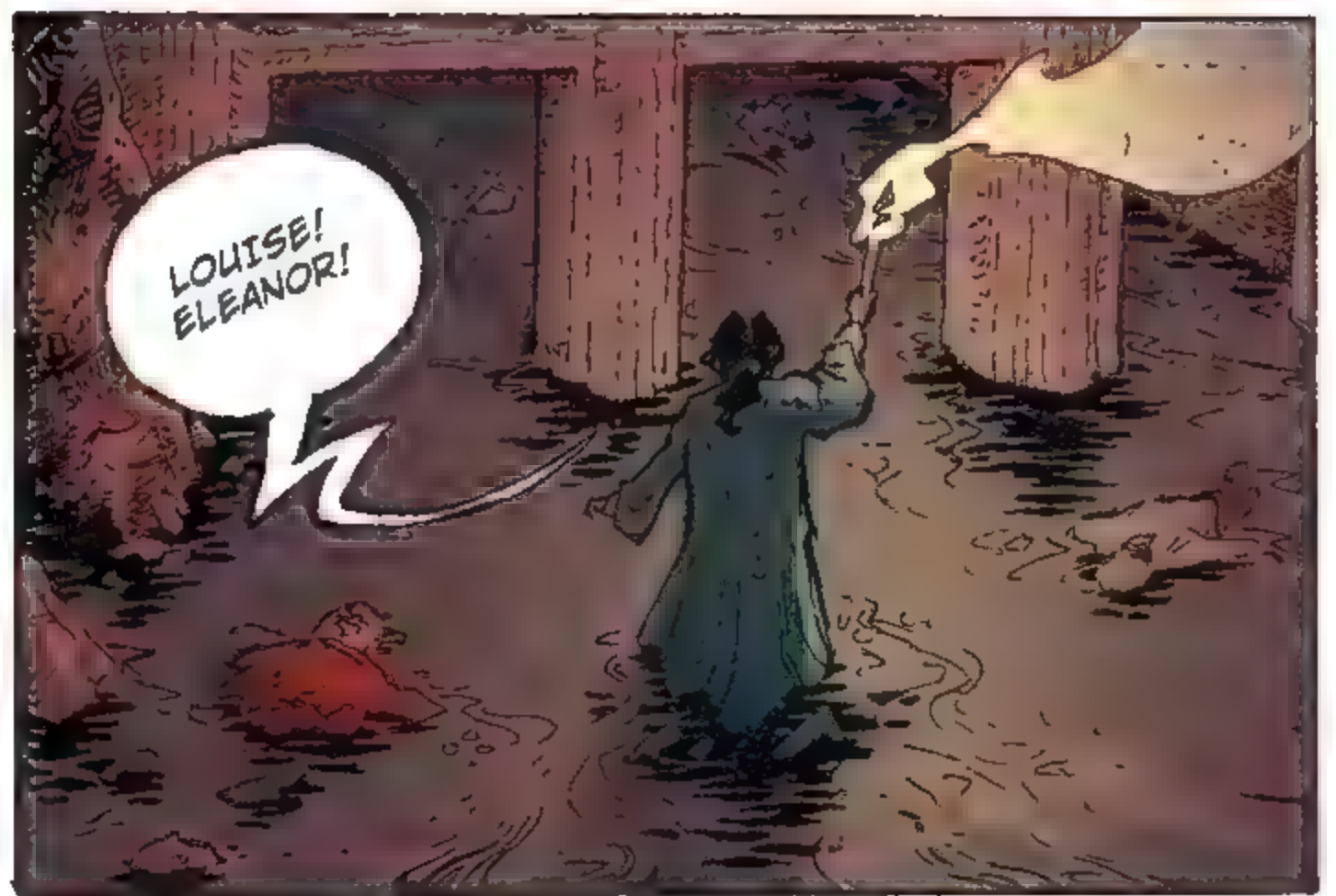
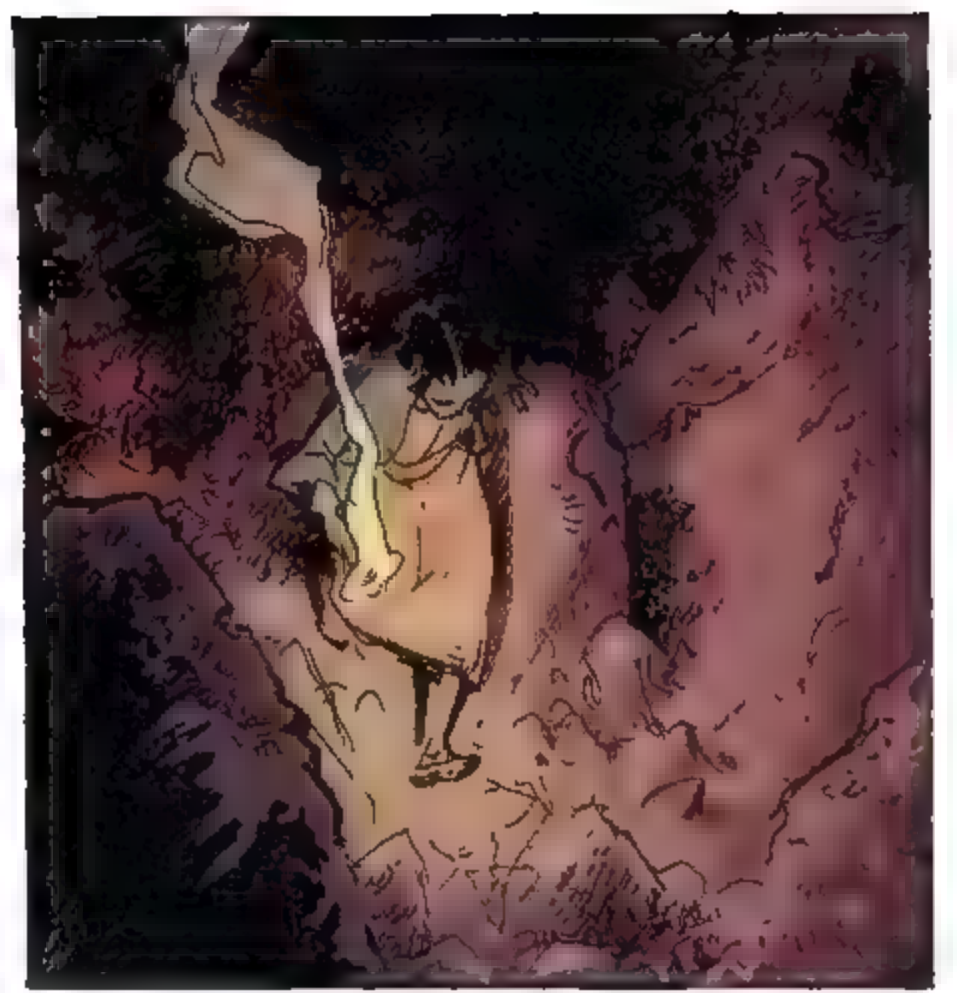
WHERE ARE LAZARUS AND OUR MEN?

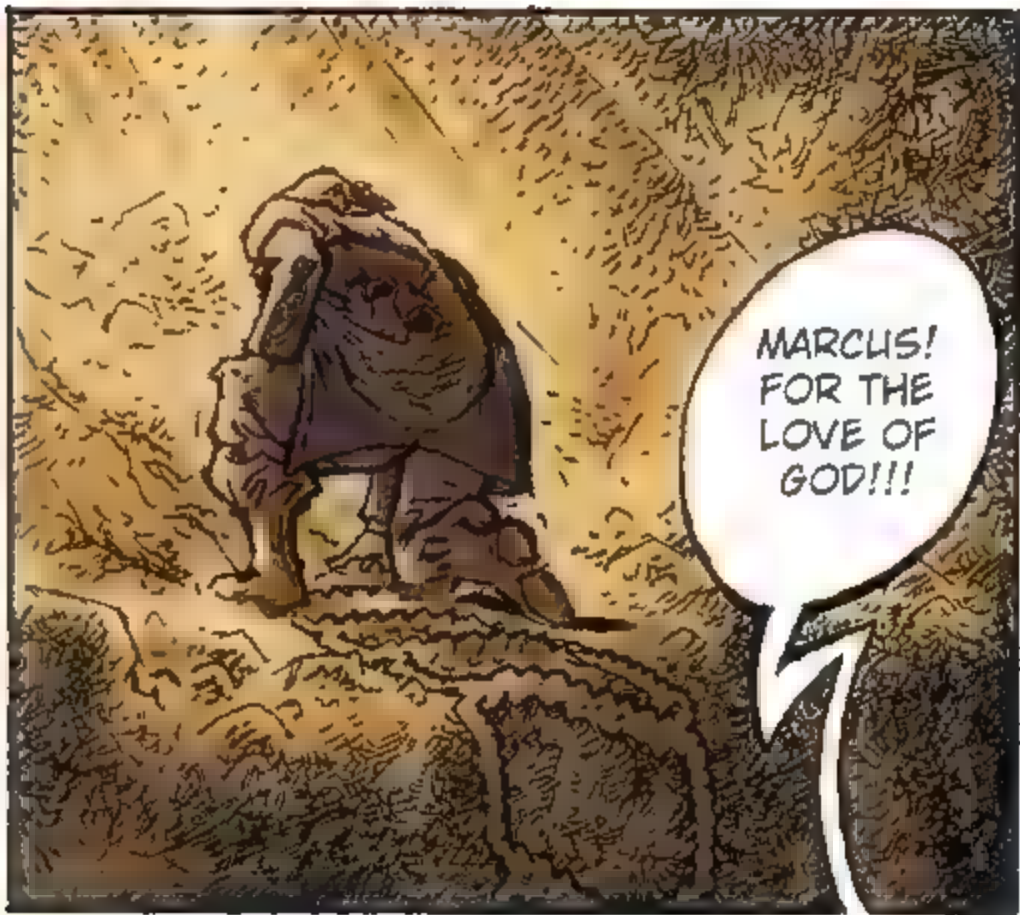


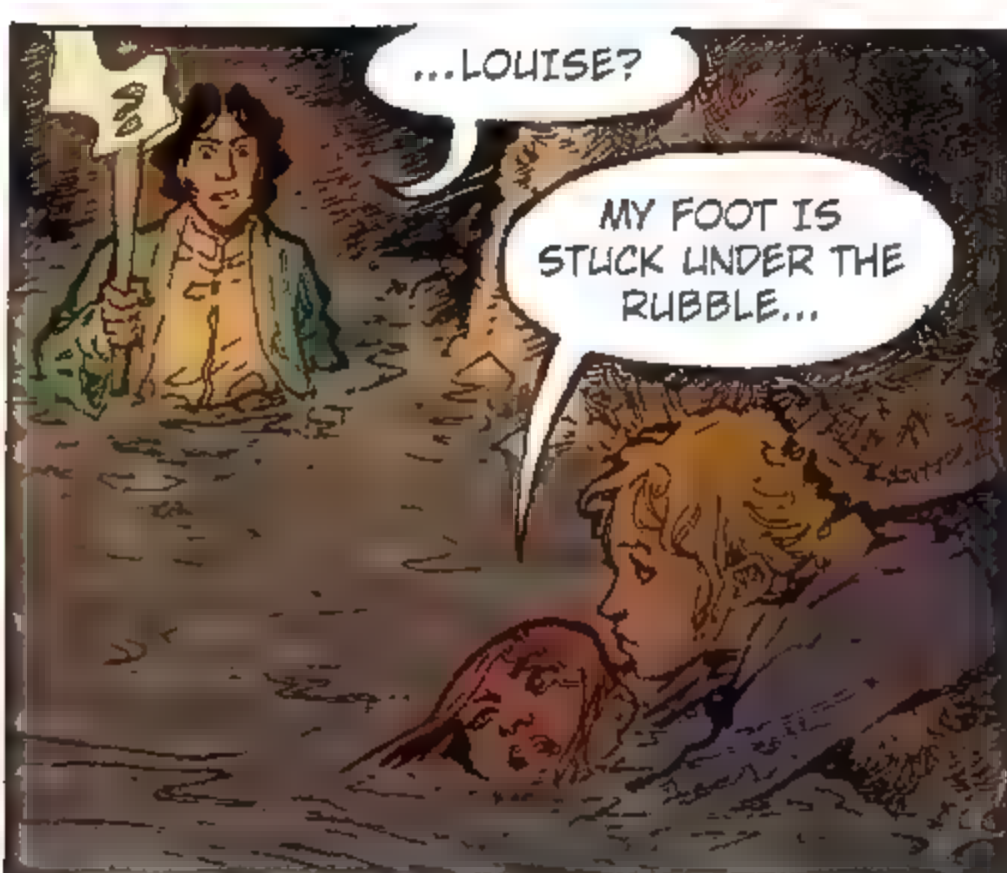
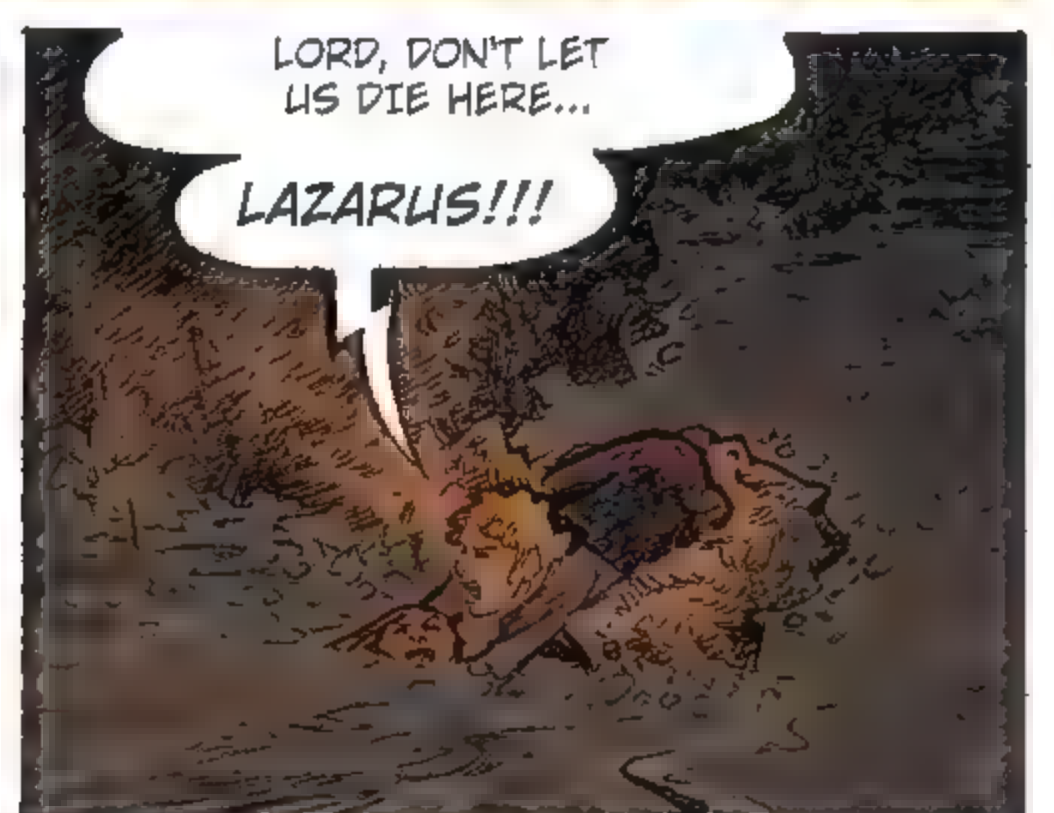
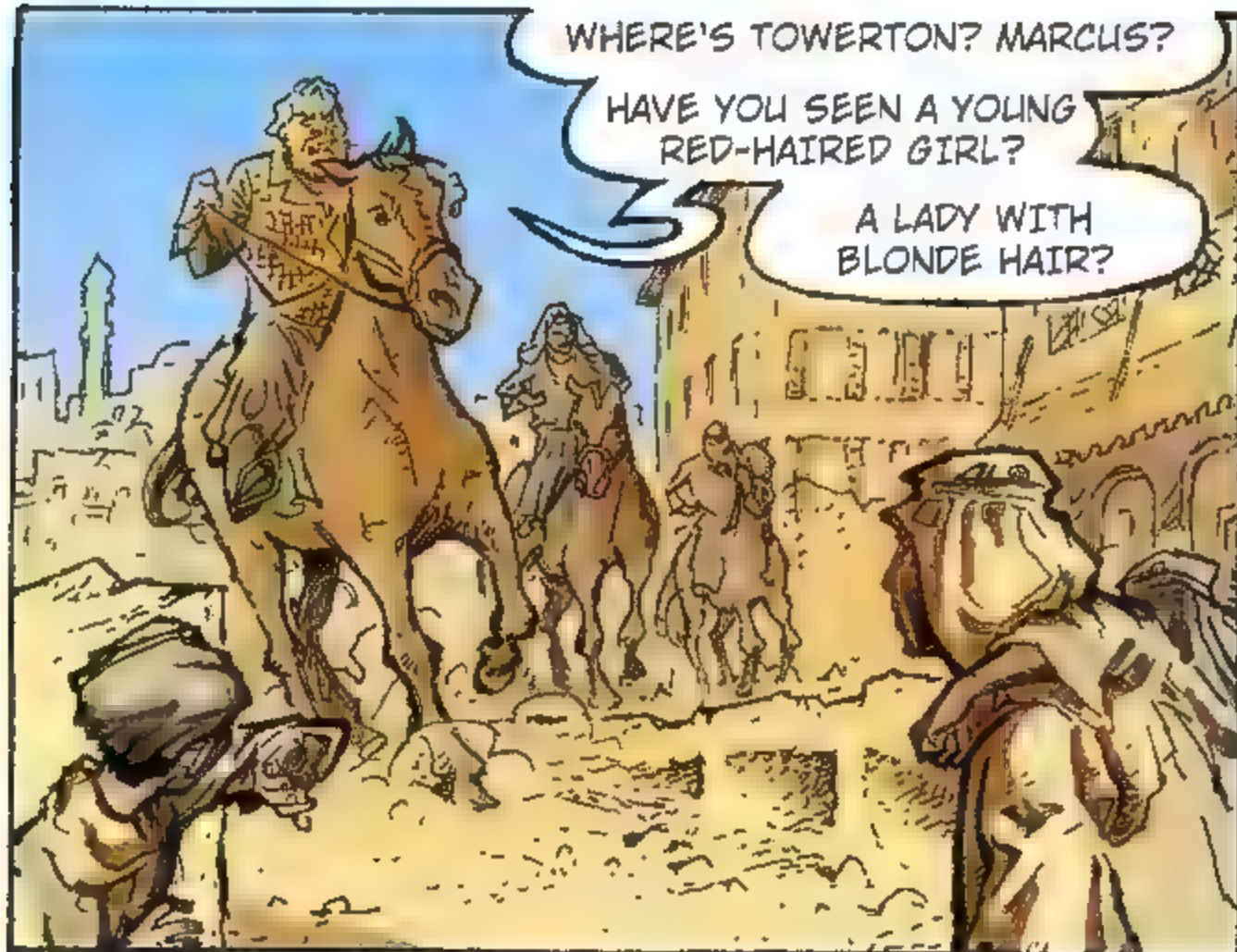
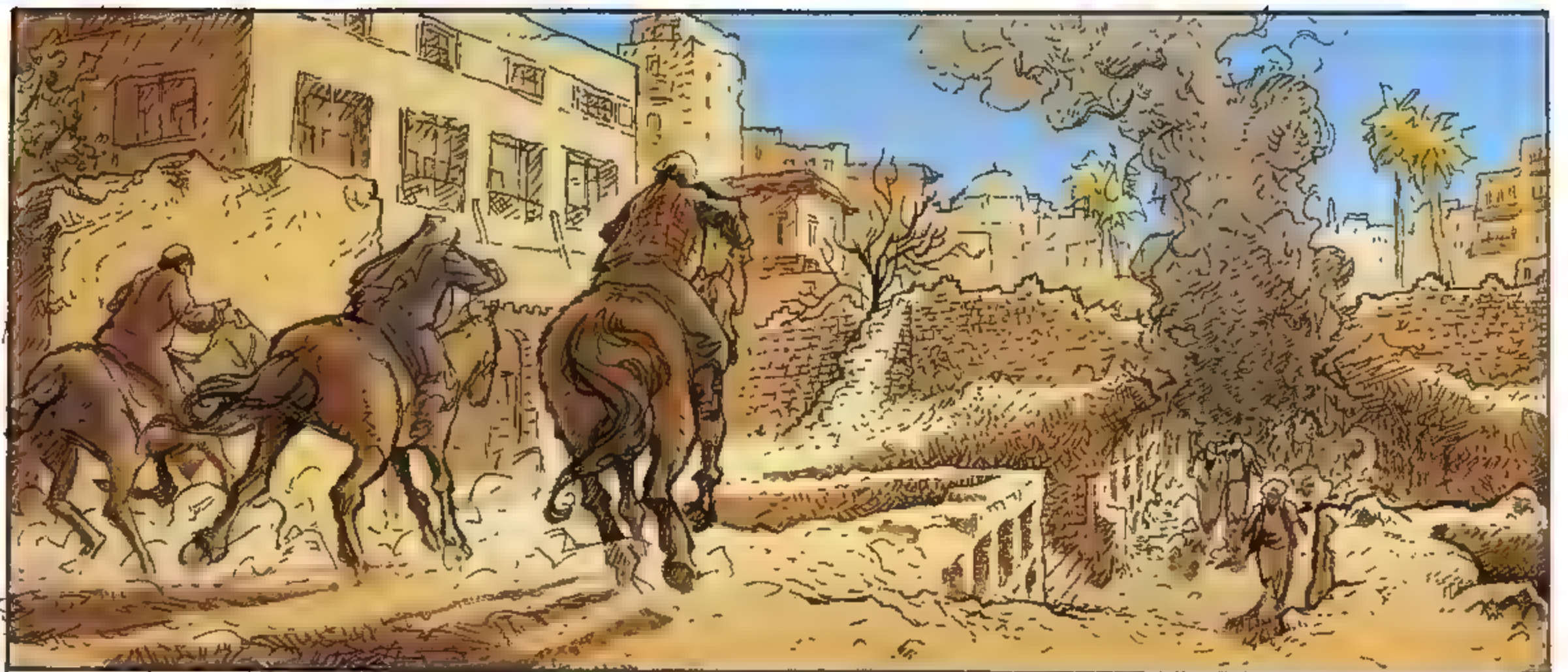
WHAT...

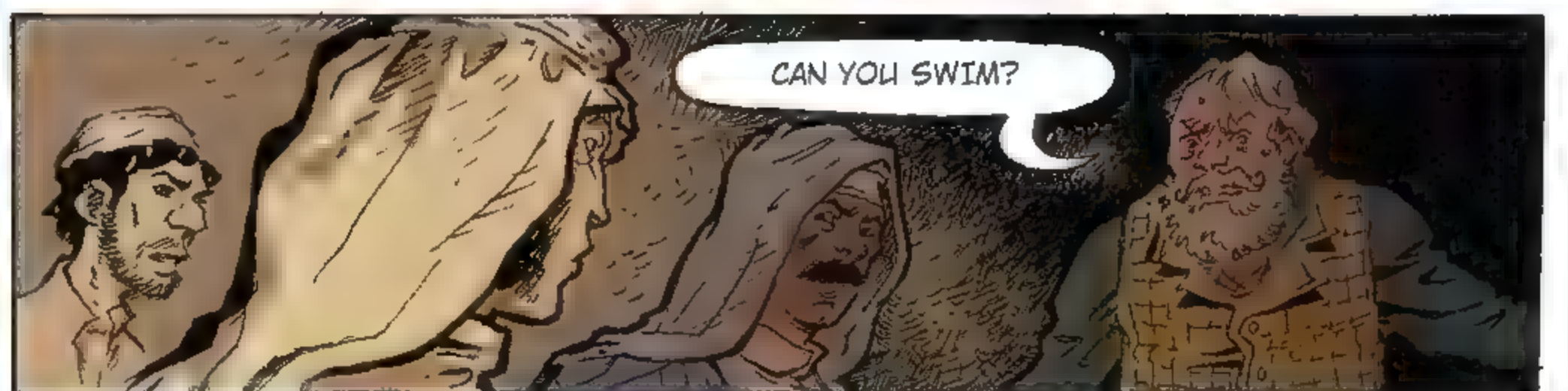
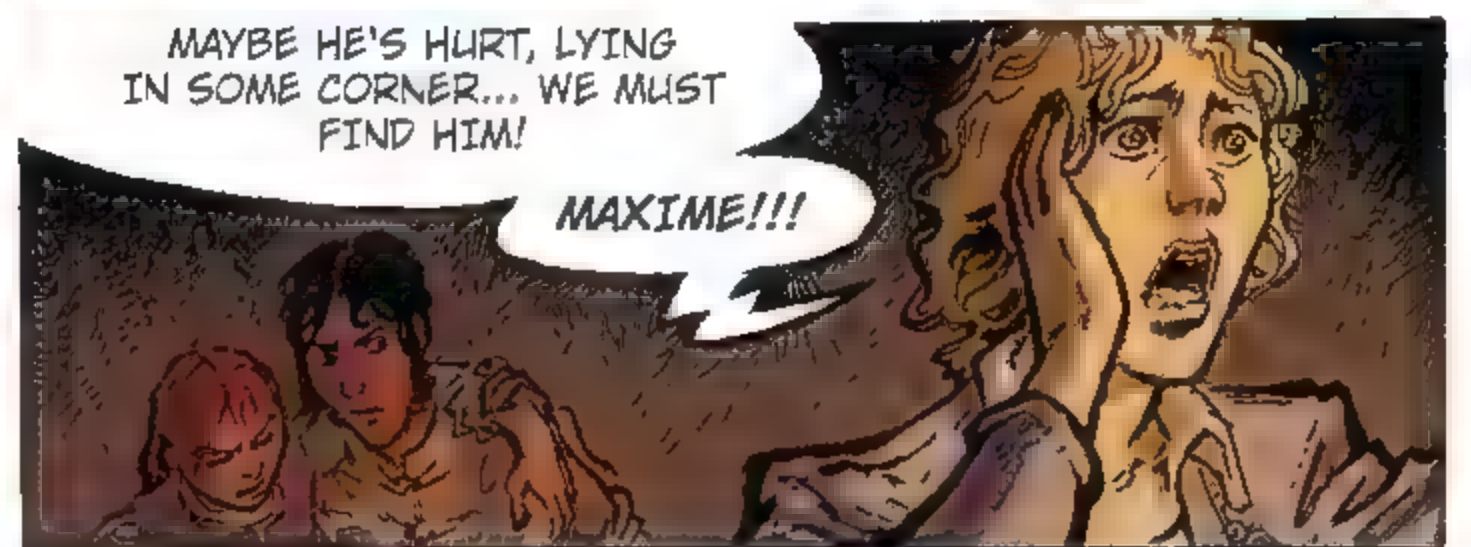
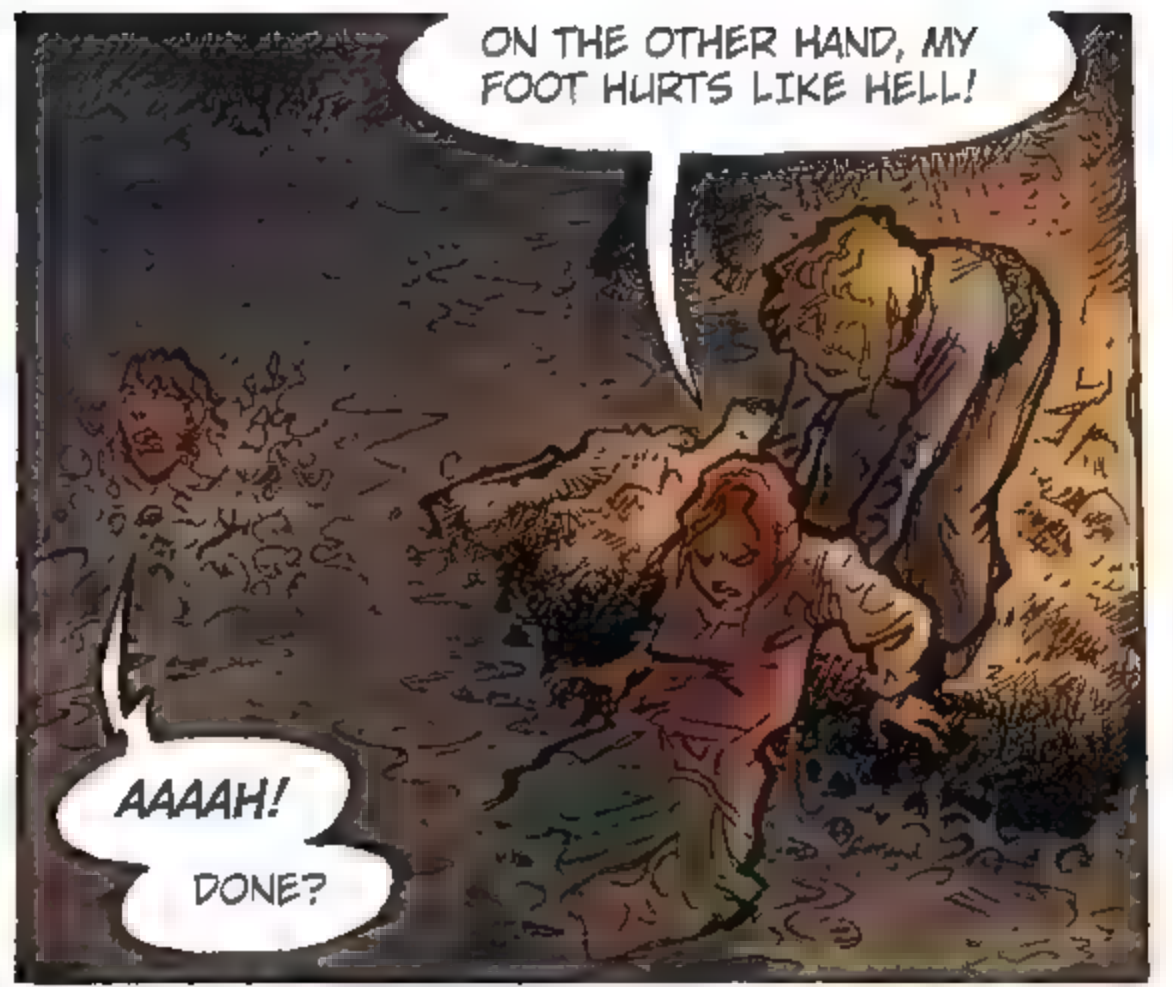
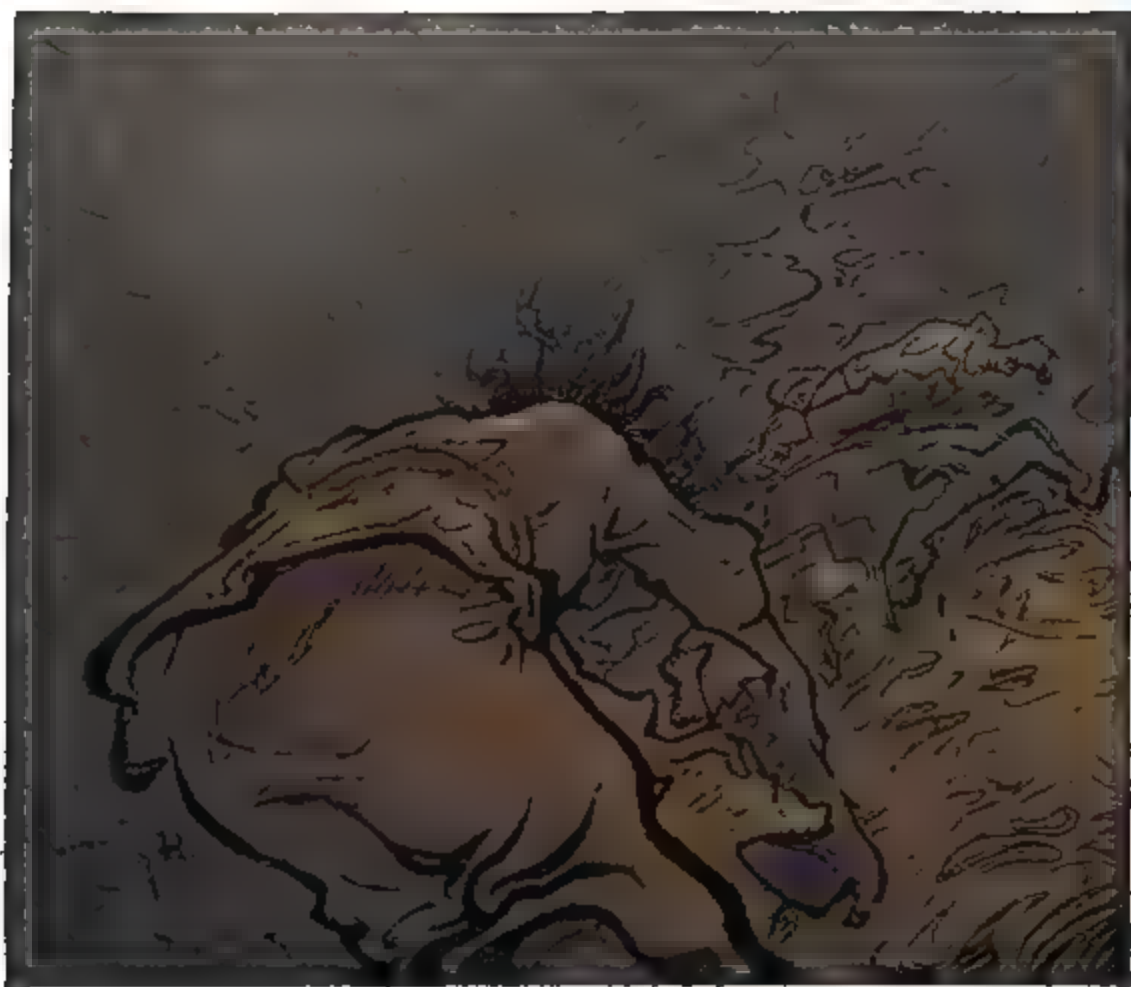


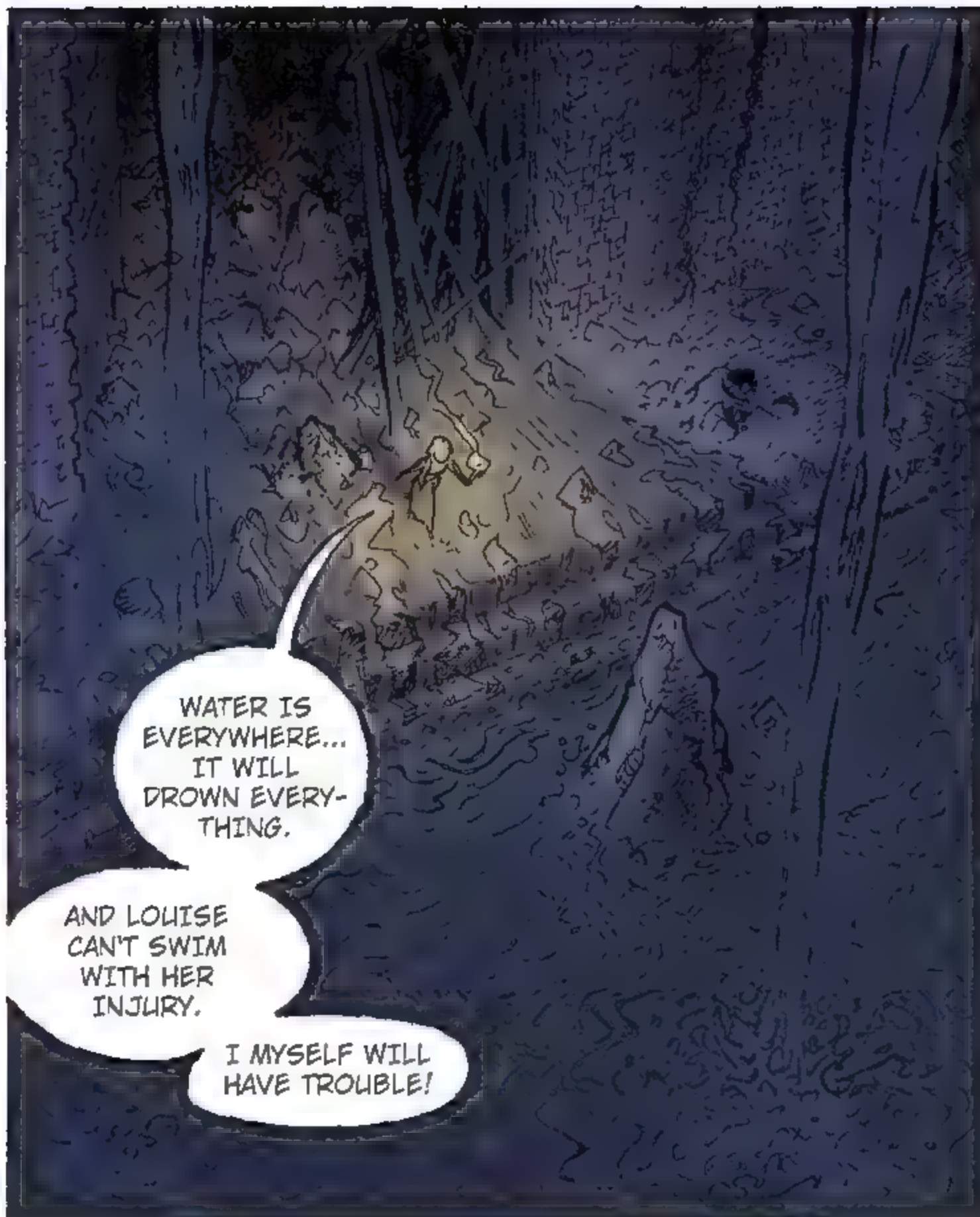
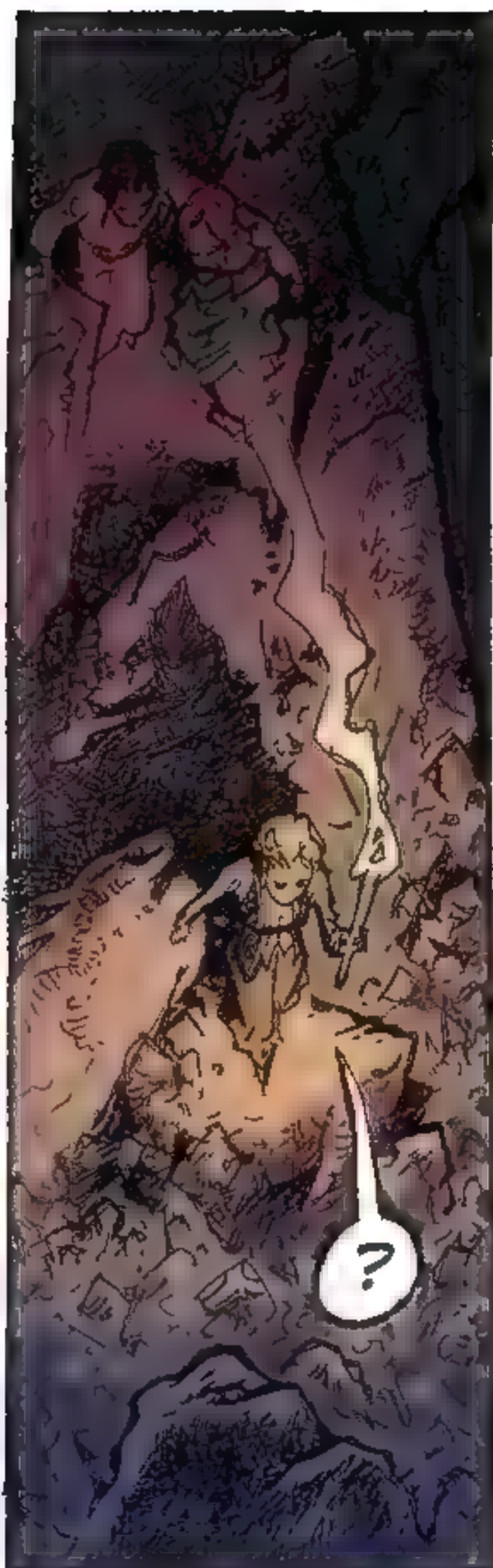












WATER IS EVERYWHERE... IT WILL DROWN EVERYTHING.

AND LOUISE CAN'T SWIM WITH HER INJURY.

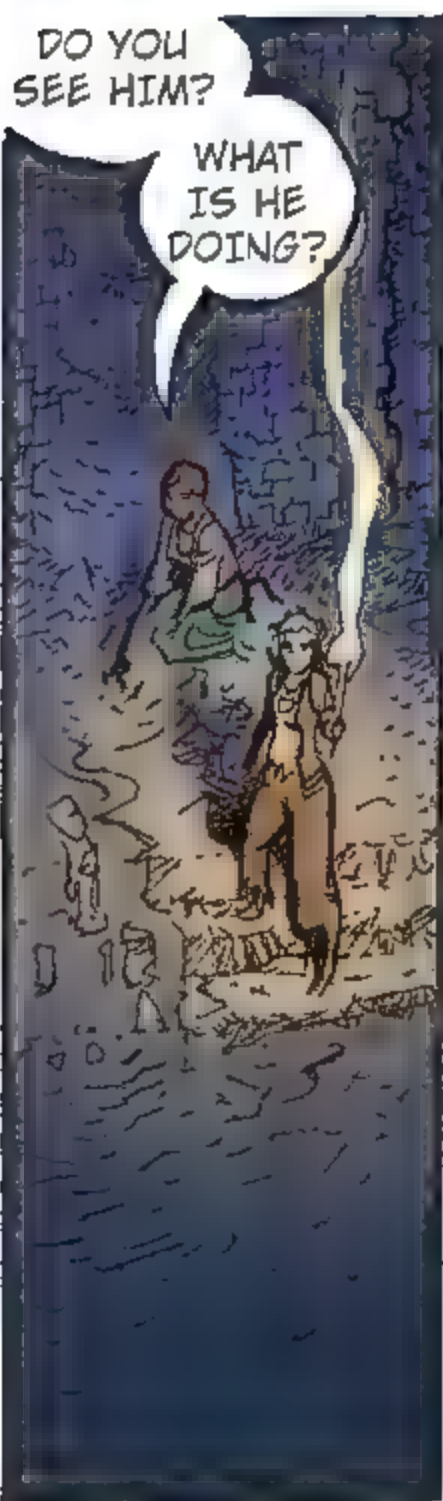
I MYSELF WILL HAVE TROUBLE!

WHAT IDIOTS WE WERE TO TAKE BACK TO THE WAREHOUSE THE SARCOPHAGI IN WHICH WE SAILED THE FIRST DAY.



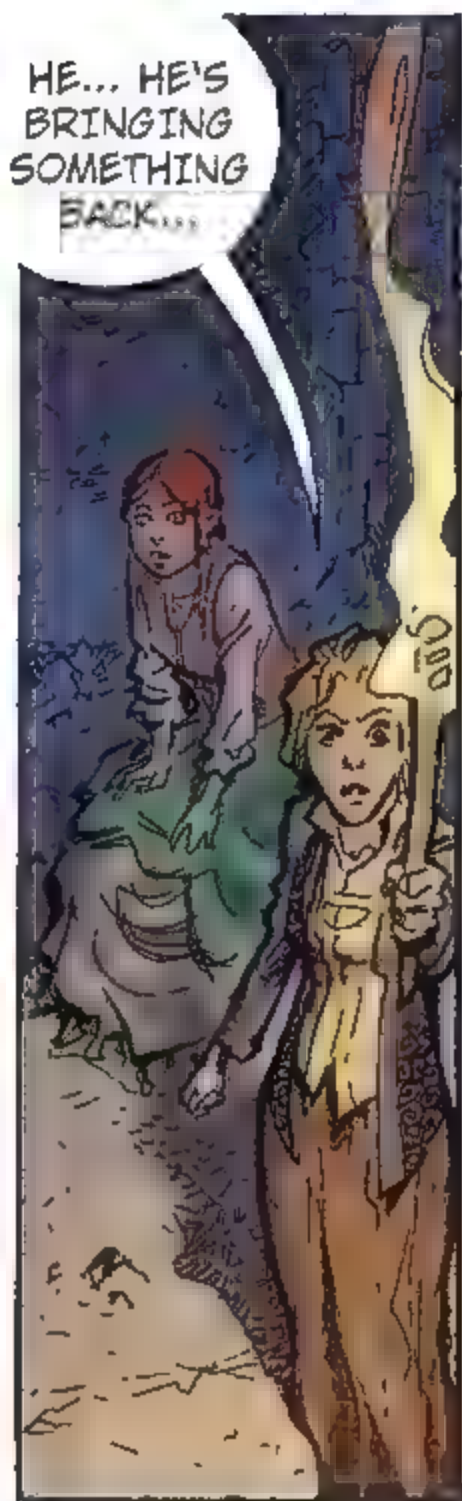
THE SARCOPHAGI!!!

WAIT HERE! RAISE THE TORCH!



DO YOU SEE HIM?

WHAT IS HE DOING?



HE... HE'S BRINGING SOMETHING BACK...



IT FLOATS!



ELEANOR, REMOVE THE QUEEN, LOUISE WILL TAKE HER PLACE!

WHAT? YOU WANT TO ABANDON THE QUEEN OF QUEENS FOR ME?!

LOUISE, YOU'RE ALIVE, SHE'S NOT, THAT GIVES YOU AN UNQUESTIONABLE ADVANTAGE.



HURRY UP, THESE DEAF SOUNDS DON'T INSPIRE CONFIDENCE...

YOU FOUGHT SO HARD TO FIND THESE MUMMIES, LAZARUS...

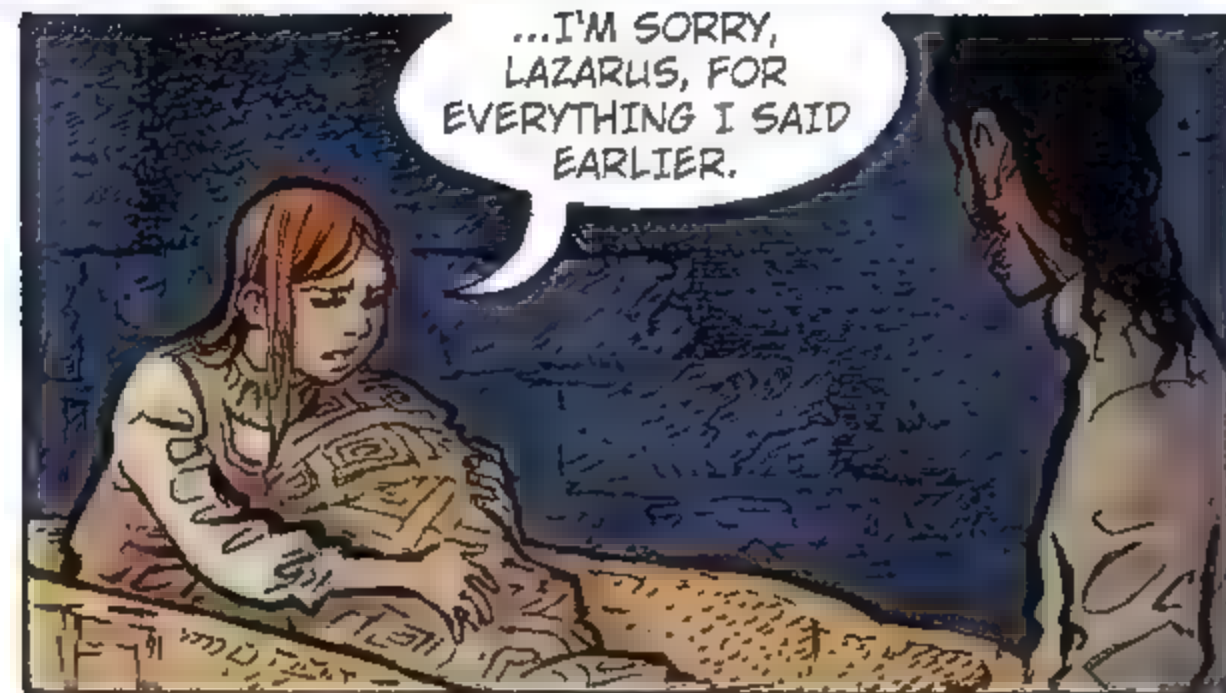
YOU... EVEN TOOK THE RISK OF BEING TAKEN FOR A TRAITOR...



I CAN'T SWIM VERY GOOD, I'LL HAVE TO CLING TO THE SARCOPHAGUS.

DROP THE MUMMY, IT WEIGHTS DOWN OUR RAFT...

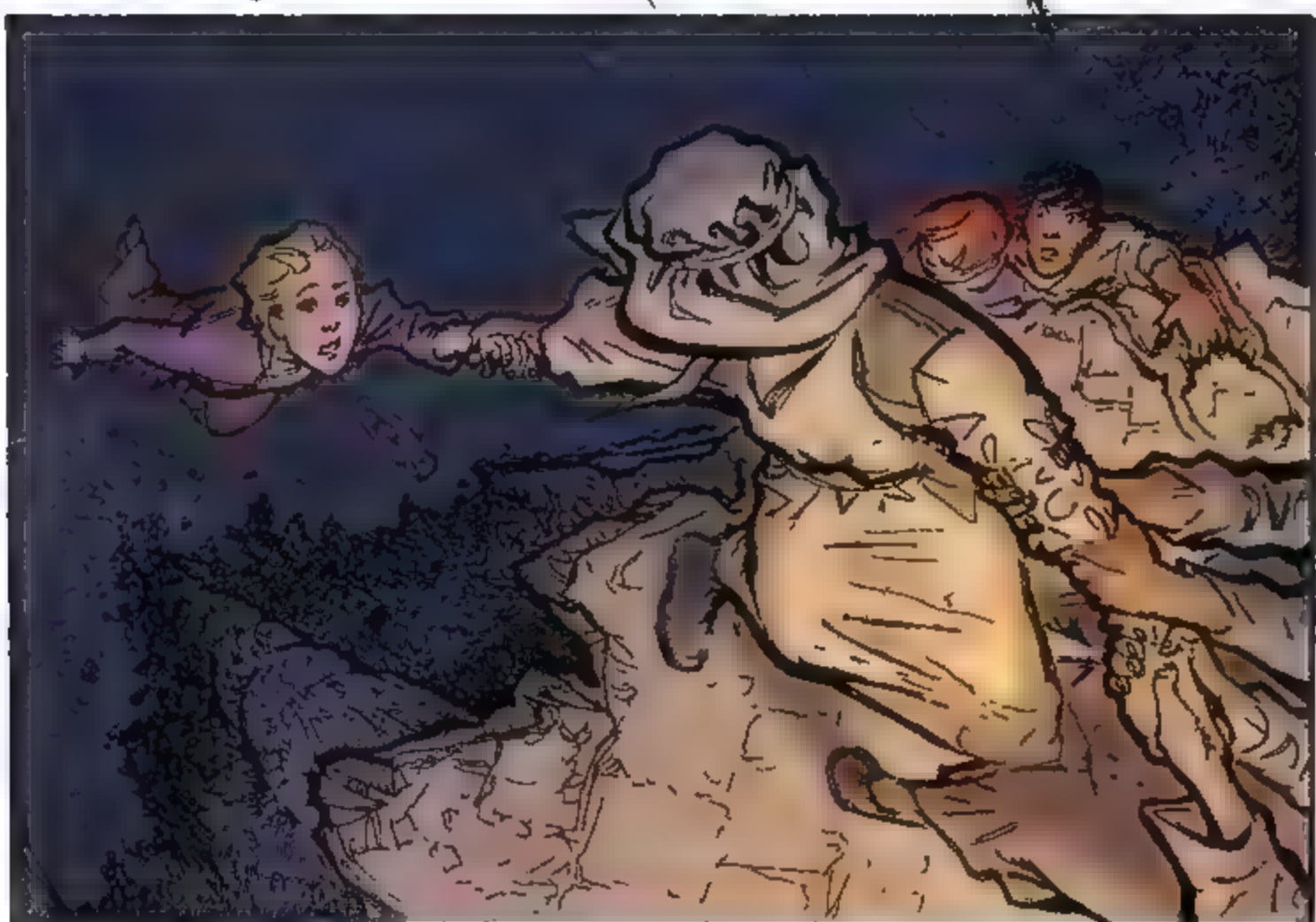
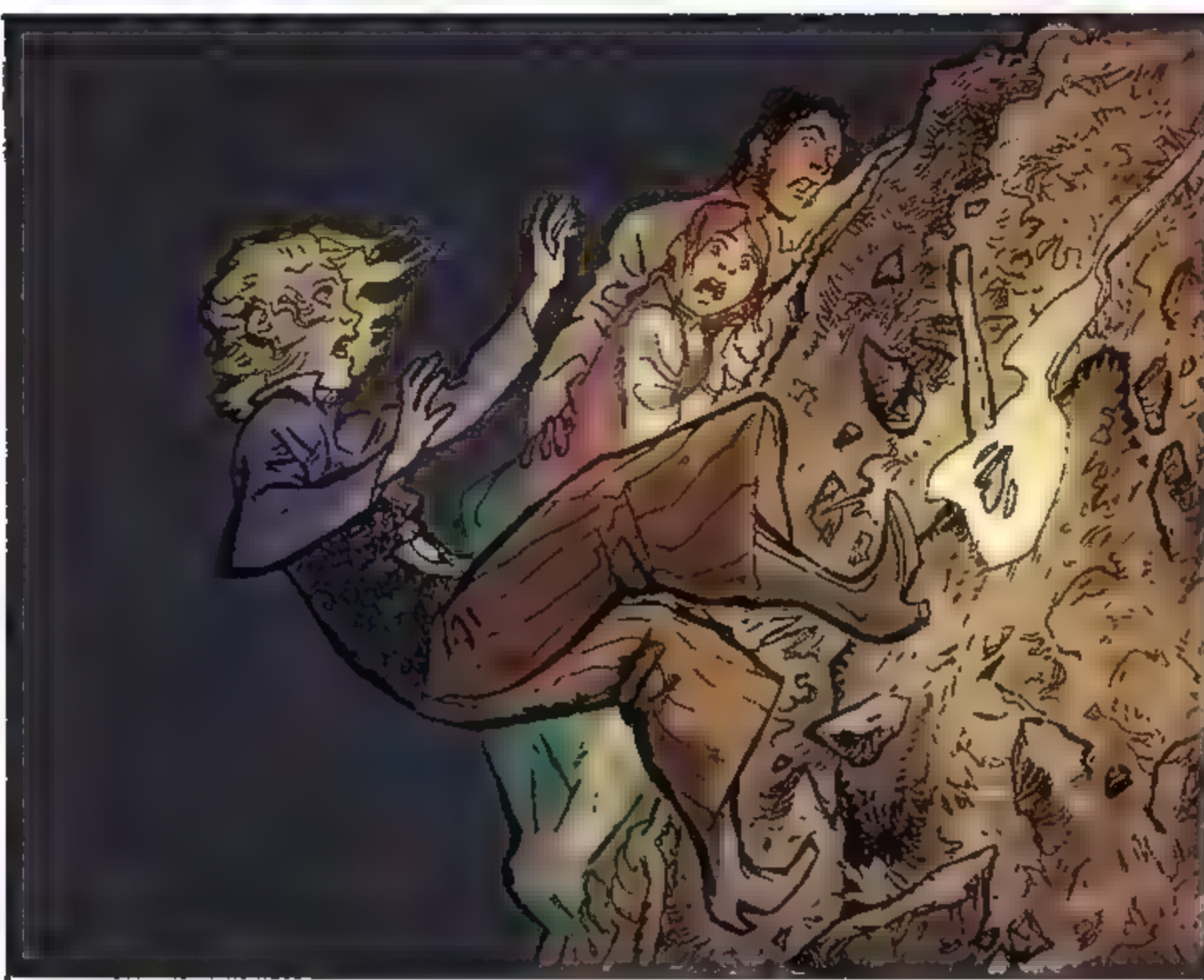
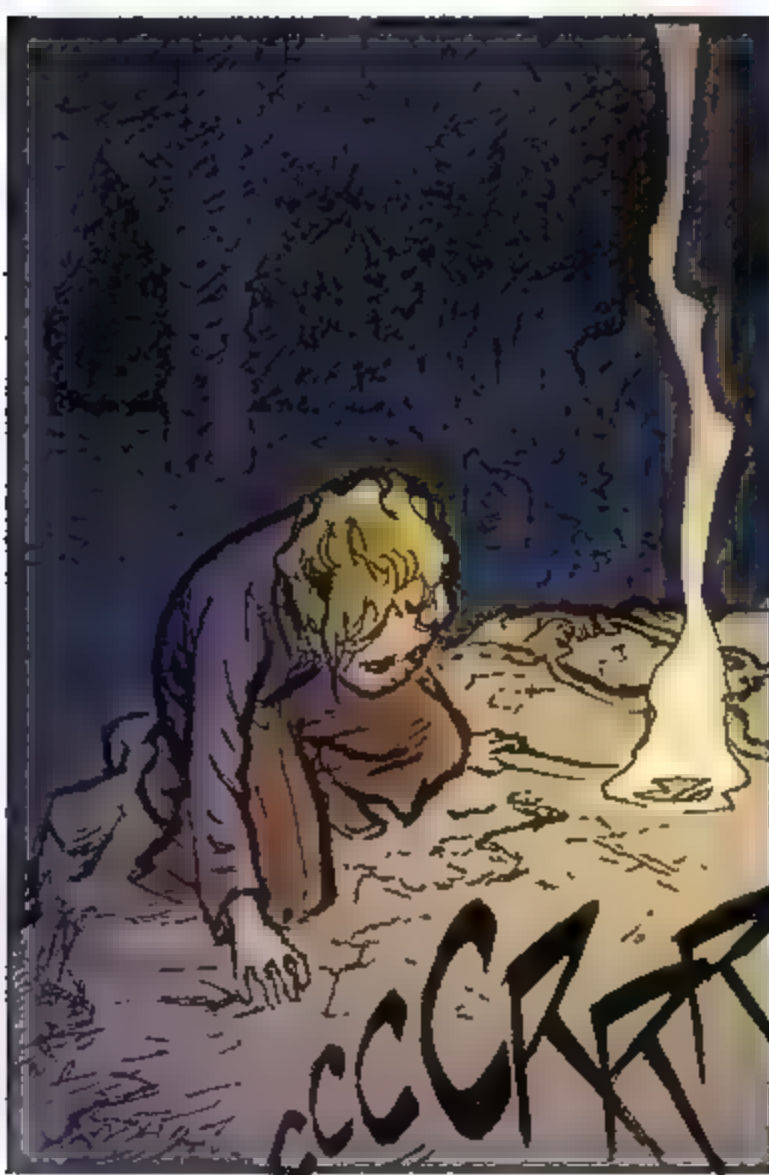
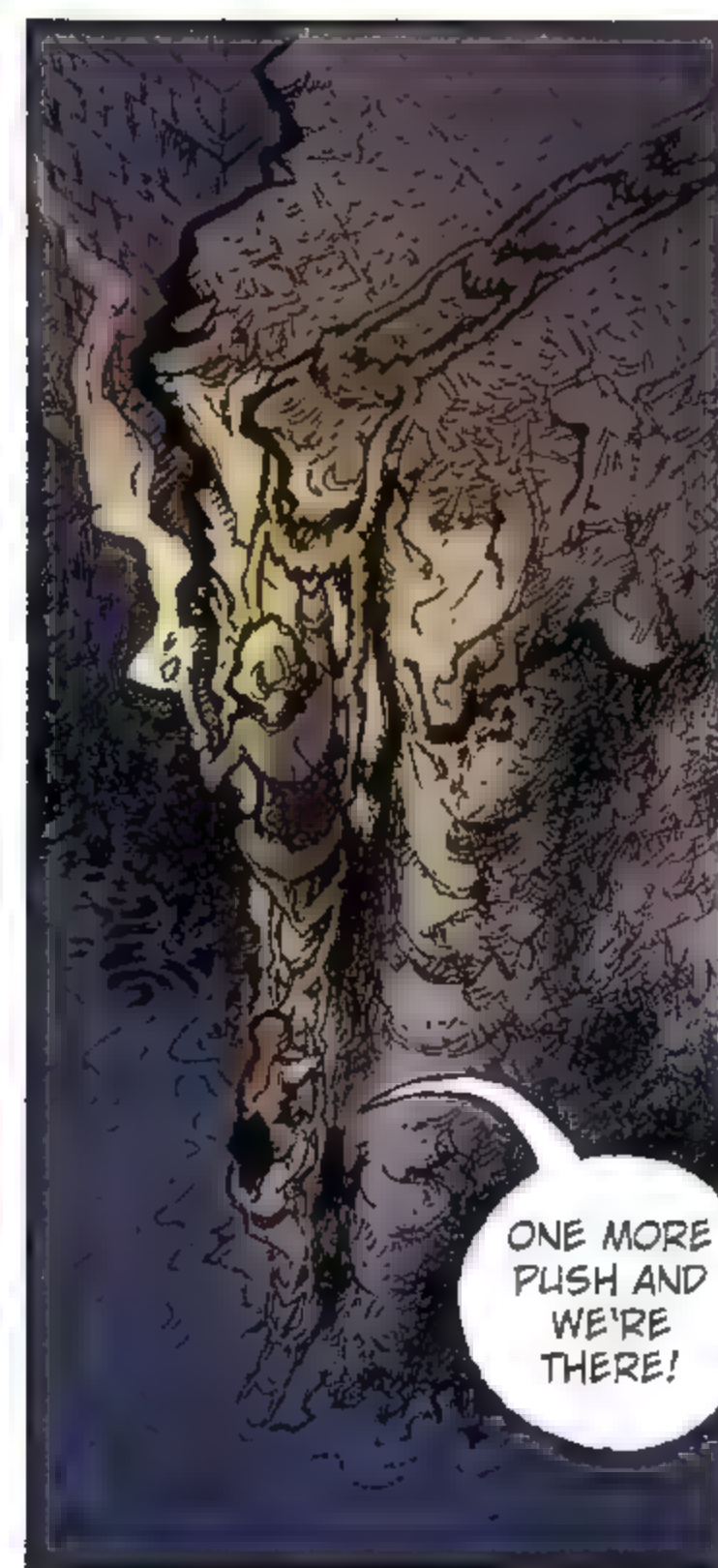
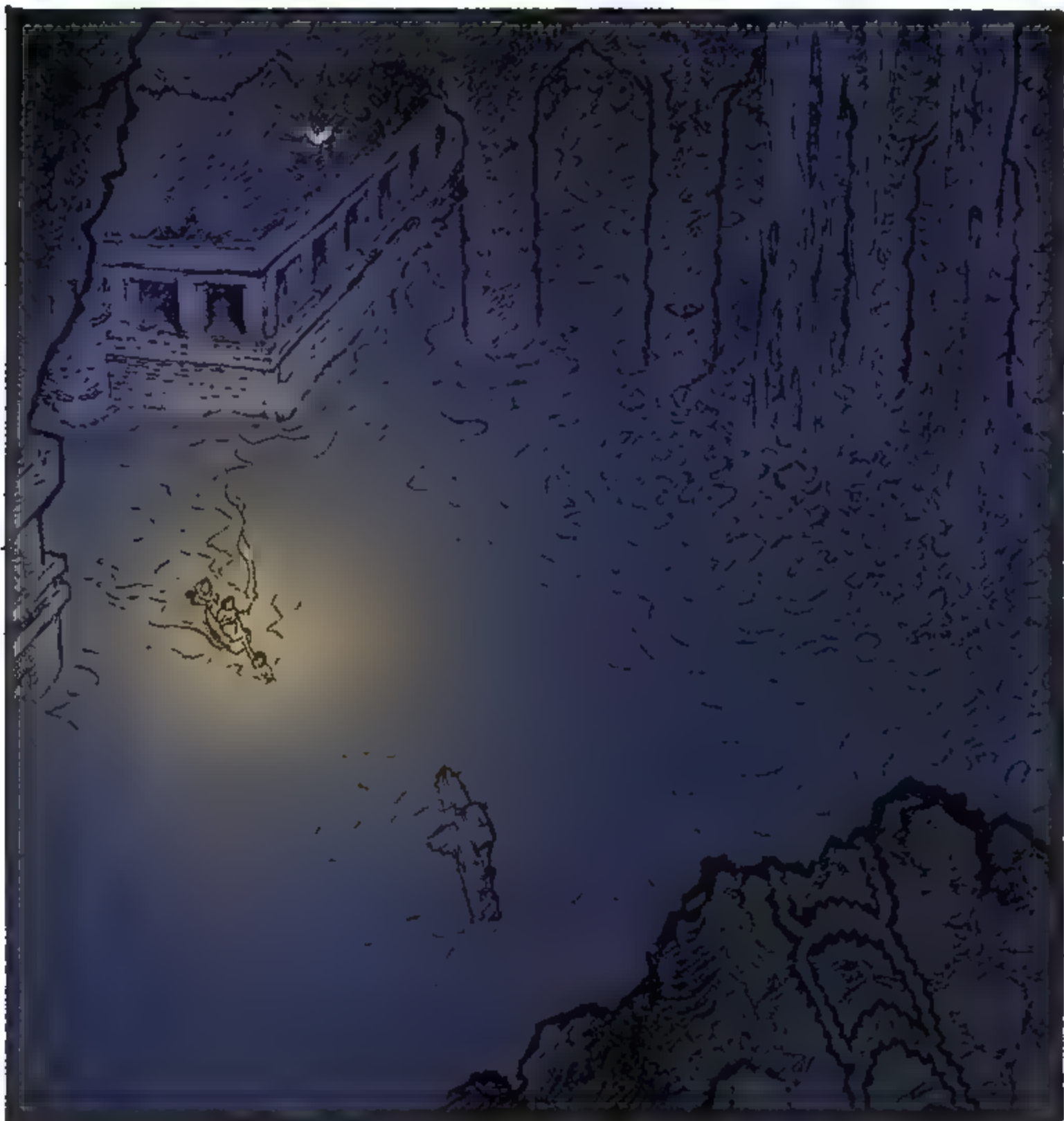
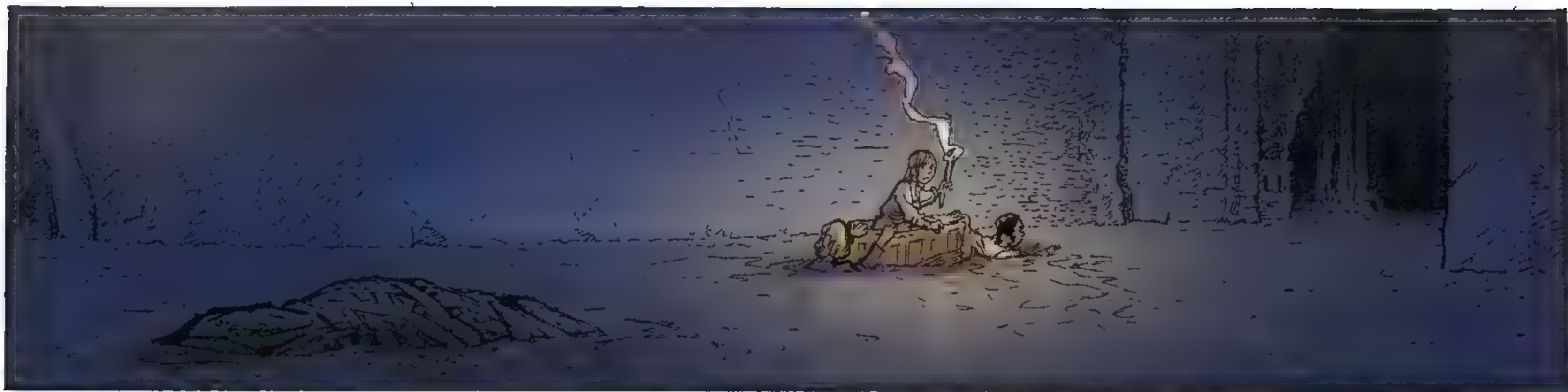
I REFUSE TO LEAVE IT... IT'S EVERYTHING THAT WILL REMAIN TO YOU IF WE GET OUT.

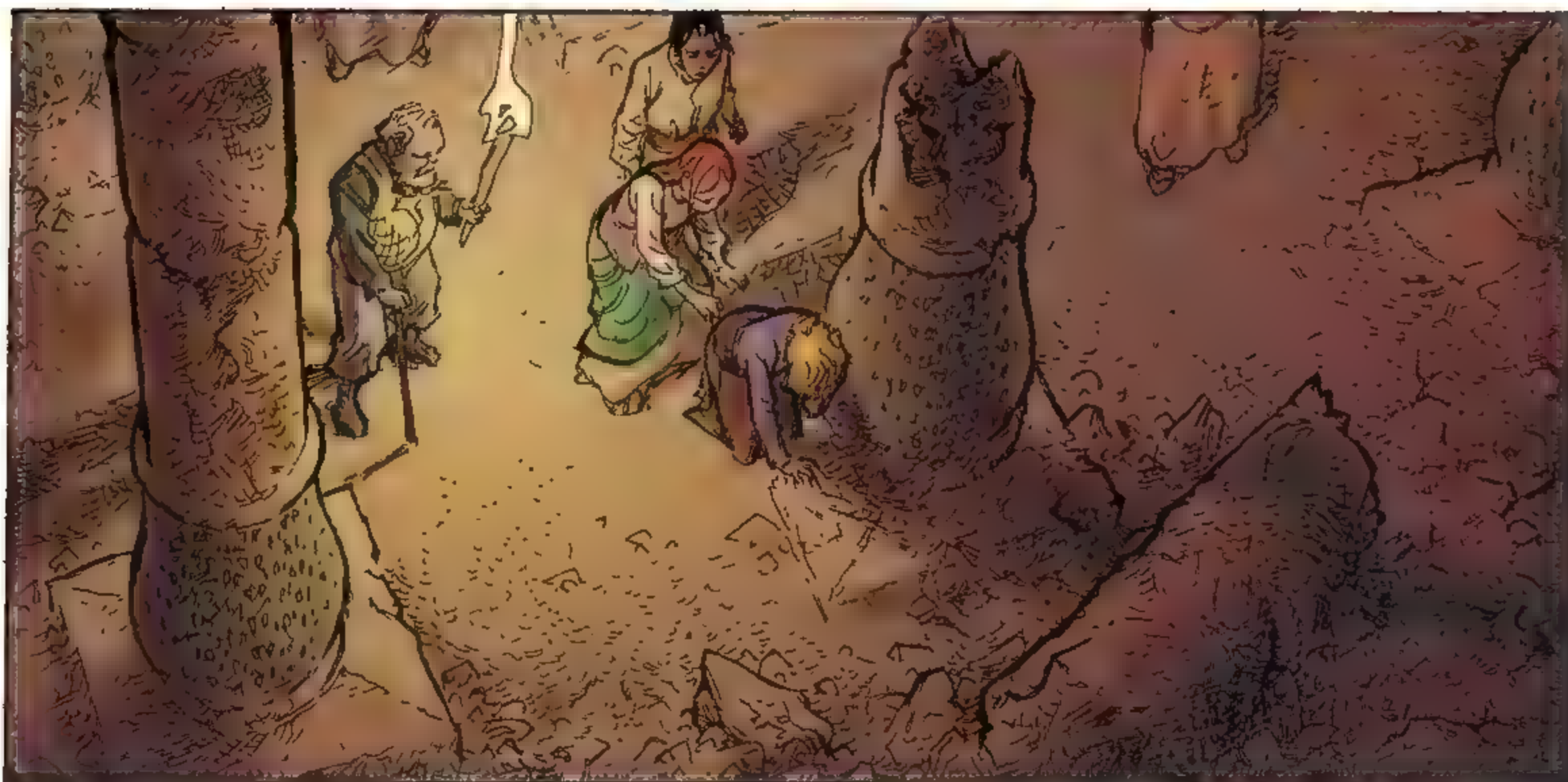
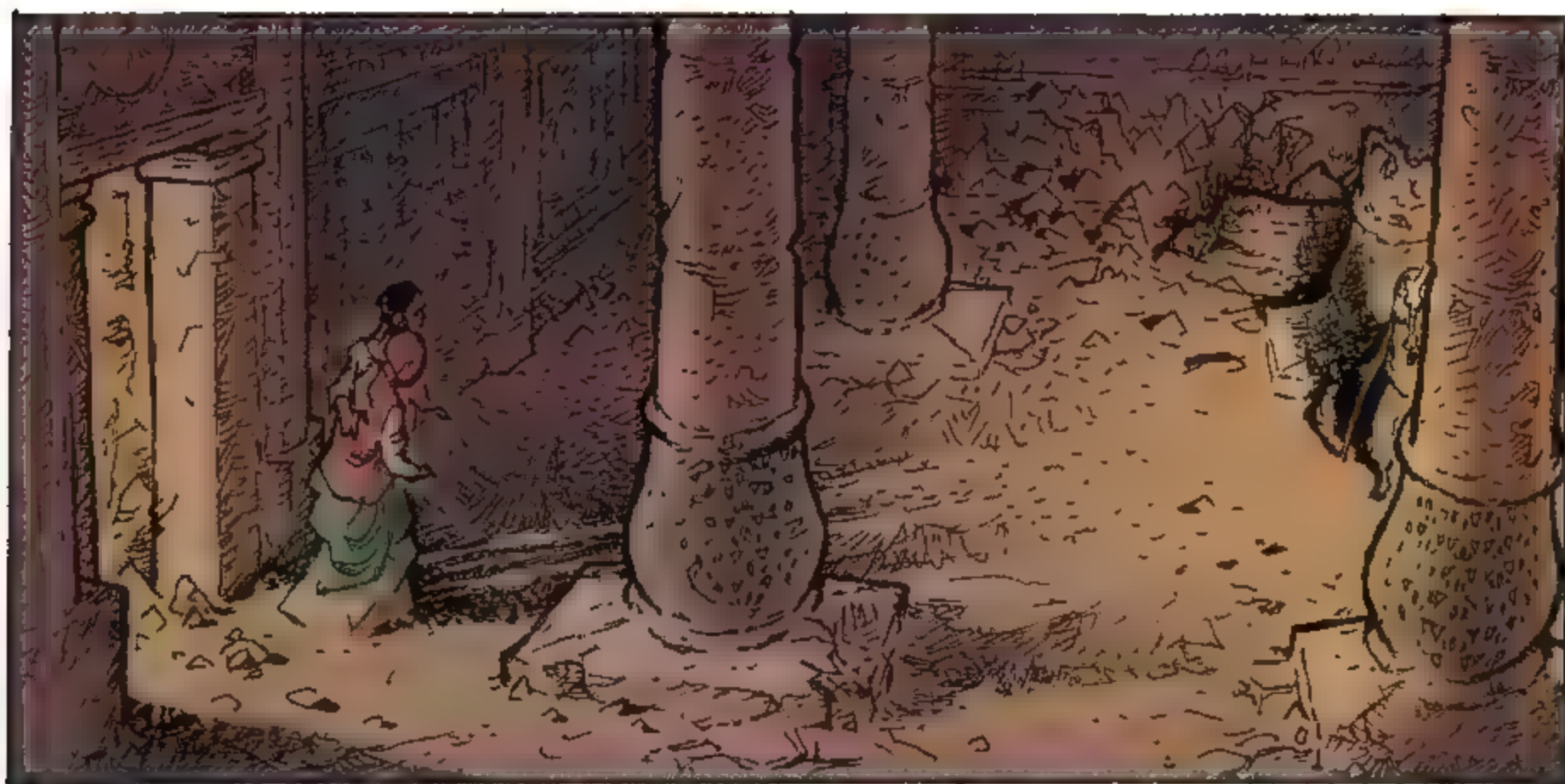
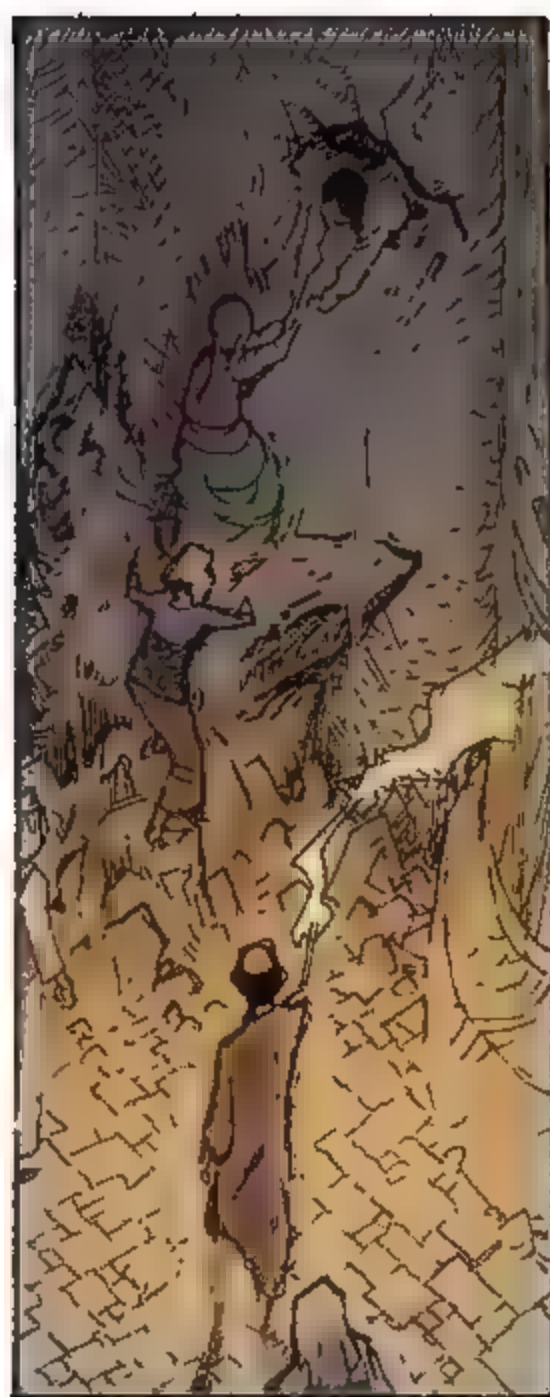
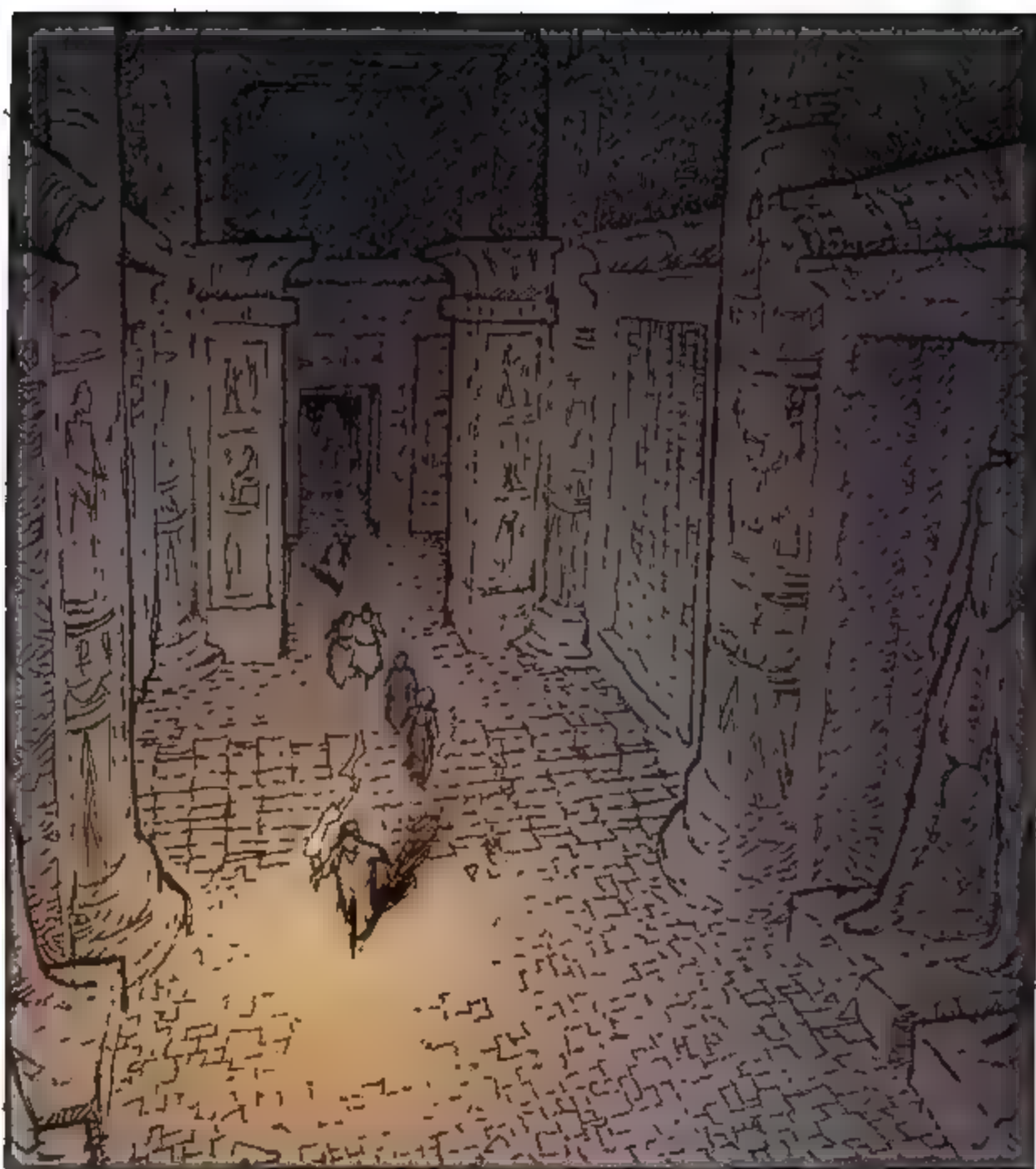


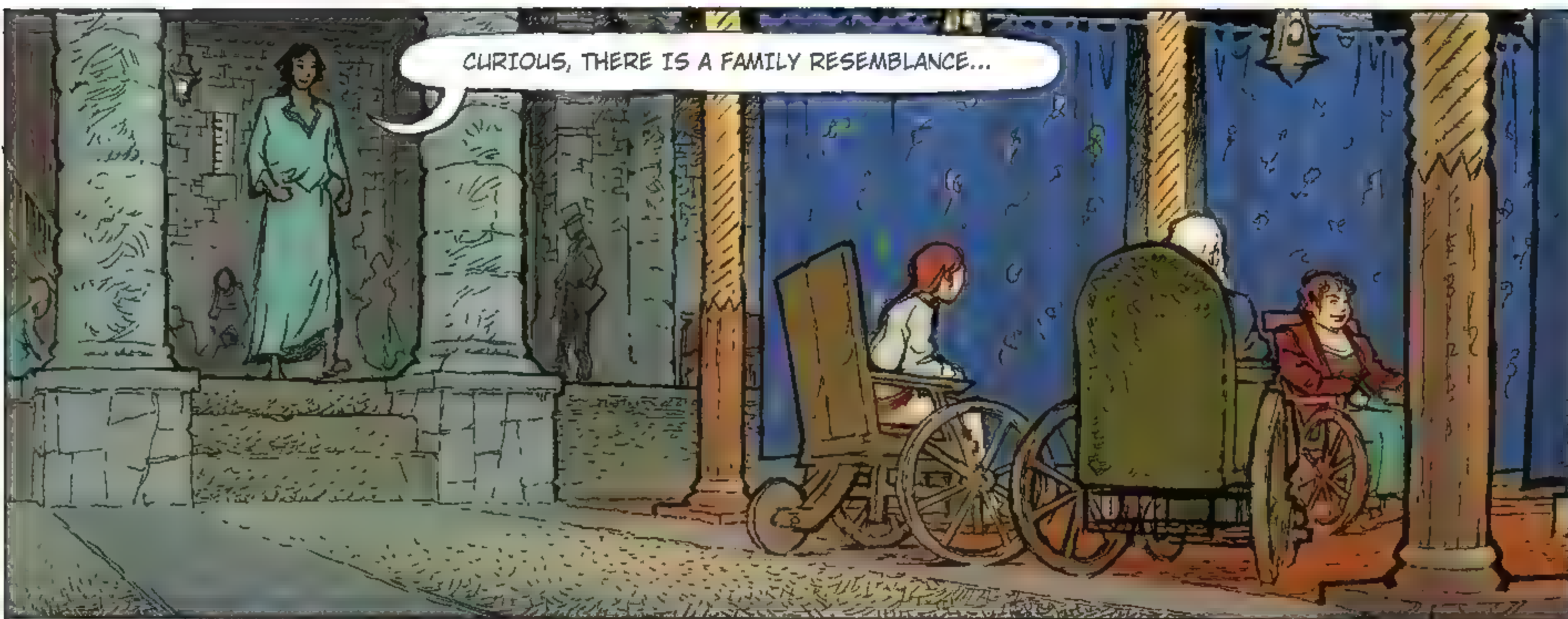
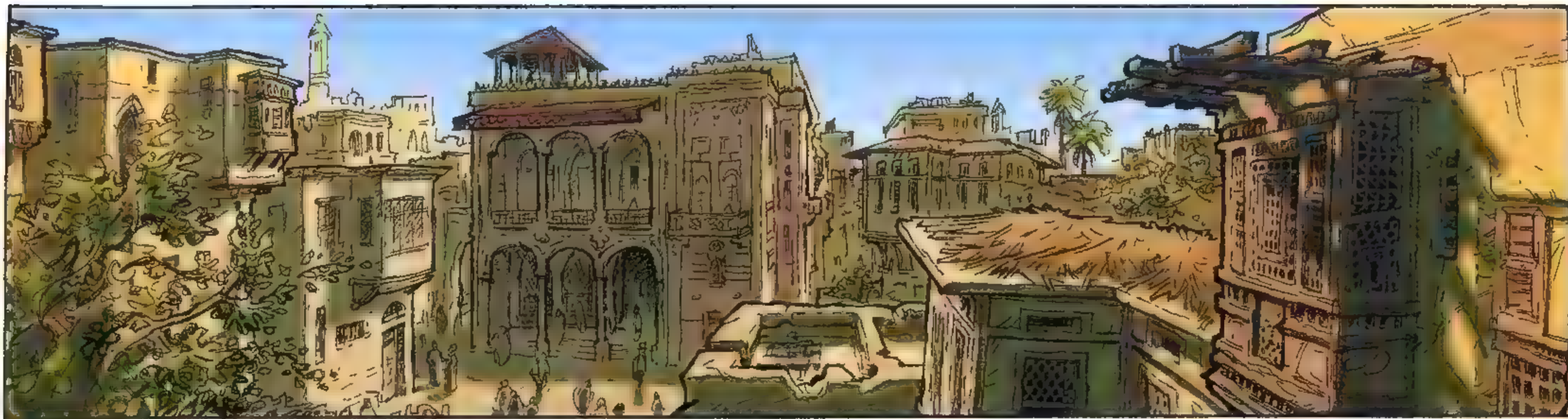
...I'M SORRY, LAZARUS, FOR EVERYTHING I SAID EARLIER.



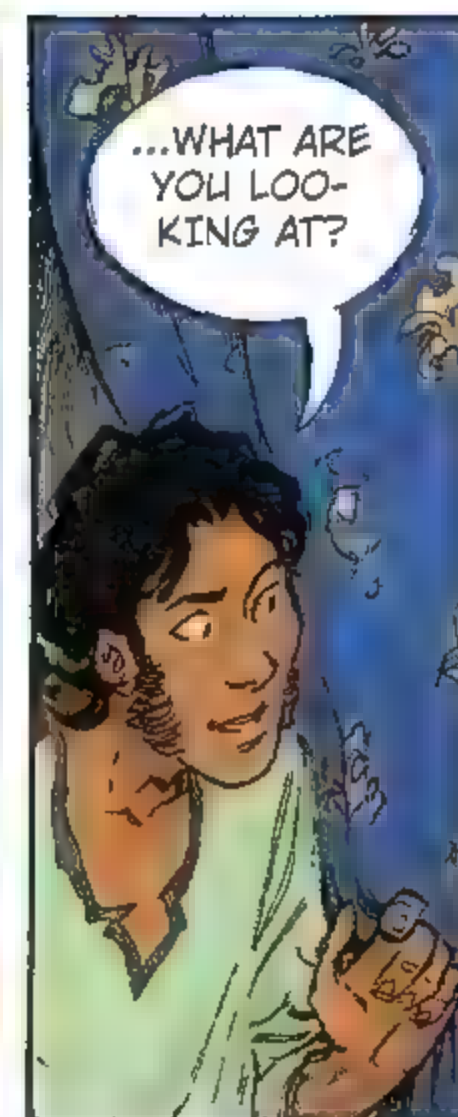
THEN DROP CLEOPATRA, LOUISE.







CURIOUS, THERE IS A FAMILY RESEMBLANCE...



...WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING AT?



?!



IS THIS WHAT I THINK IT IS? CLEOPATRA'S SARCOPHAGUS?

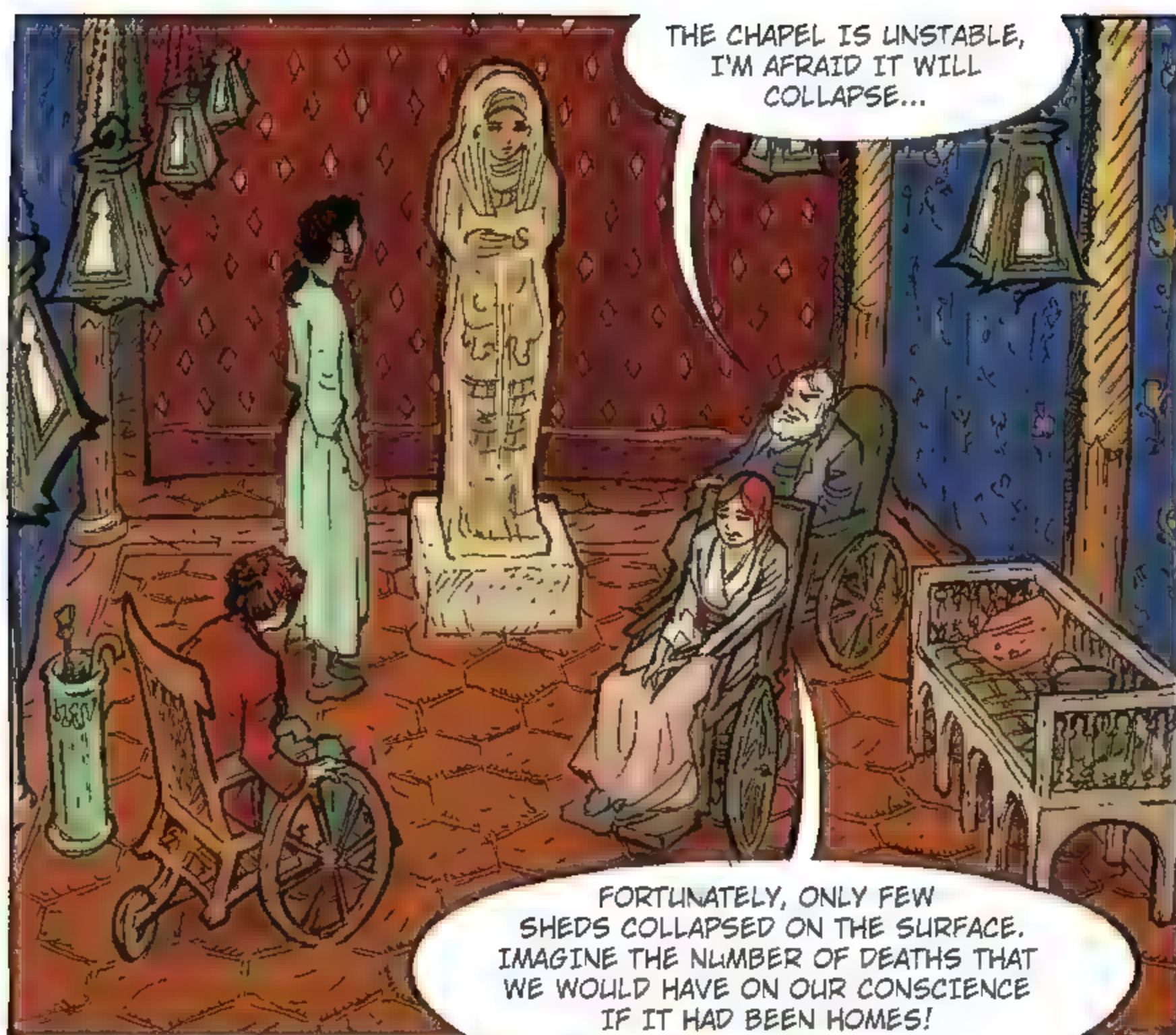


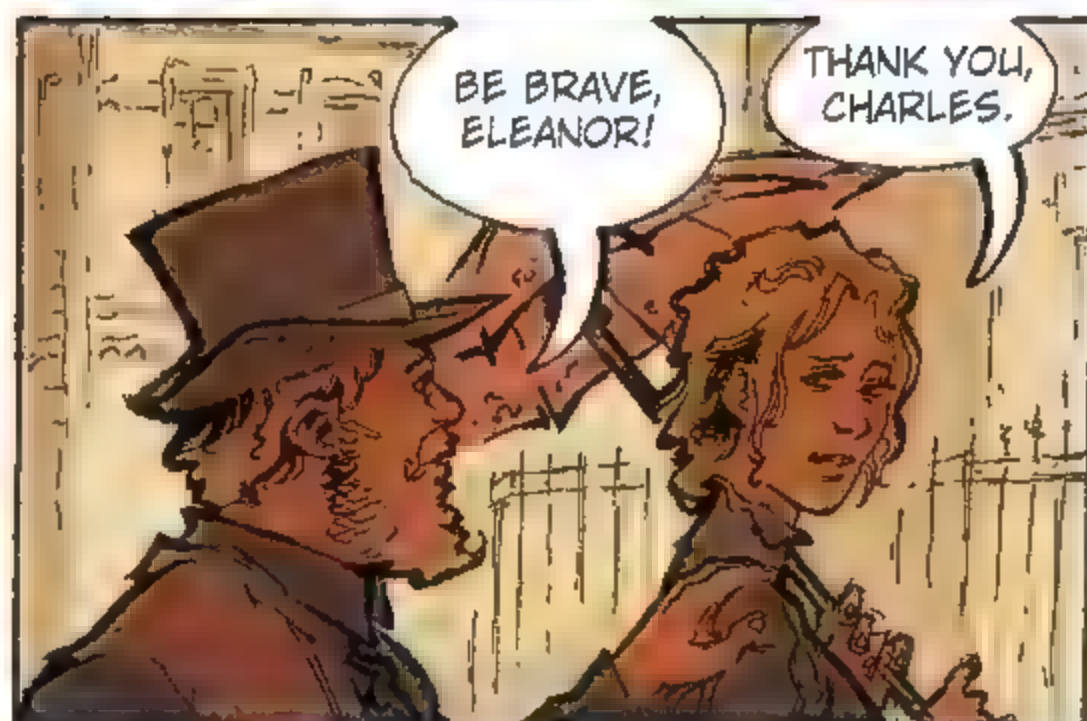
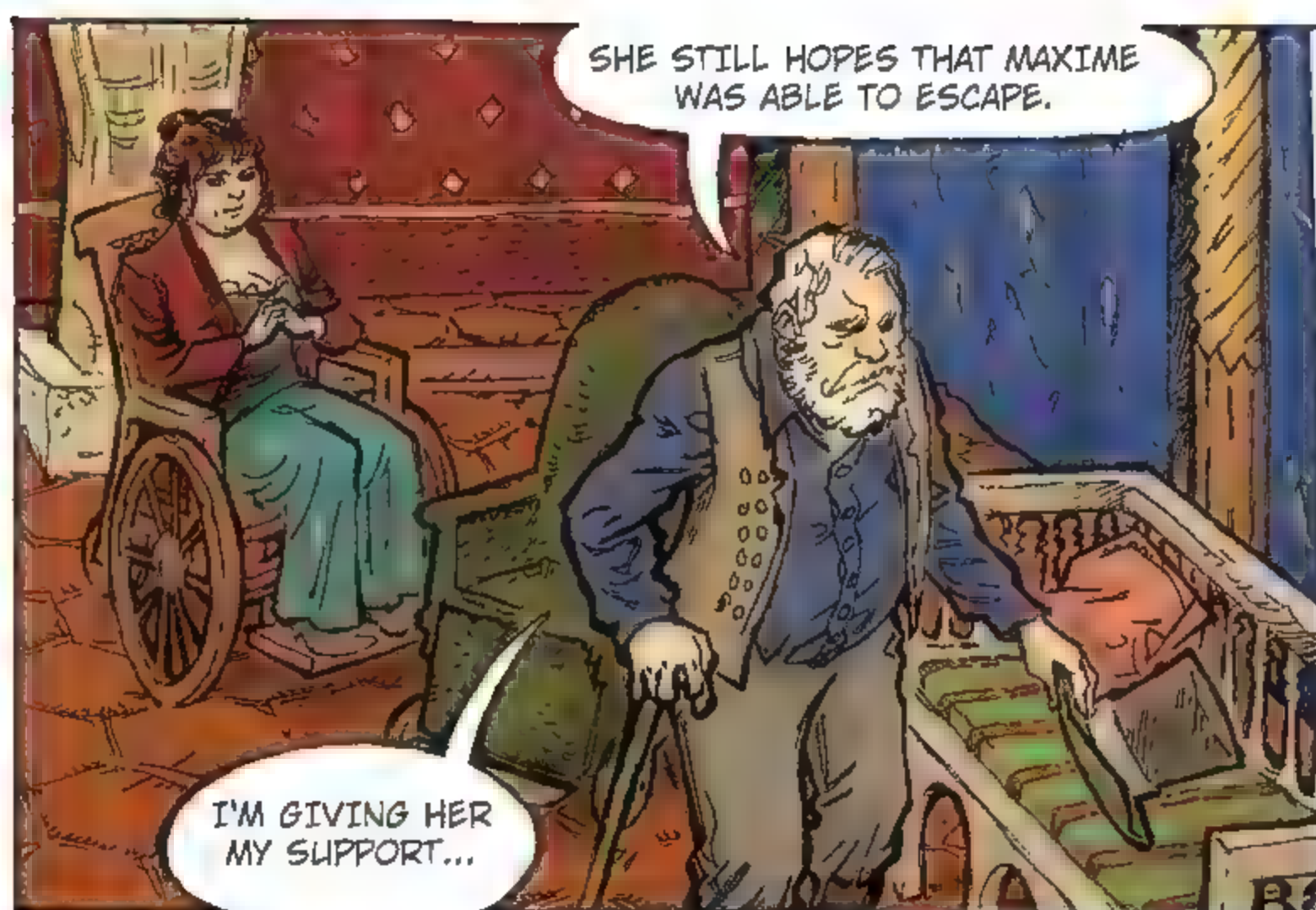
YESTERDAY, I SENT MEN DOWN TO TRY TO FIND MAXIME. THIS COFFIN WAS LYING IN THE ACCESS CORRIDOR TO THE CHAPEL. THEY BROUGHT IT BACK TO ME.

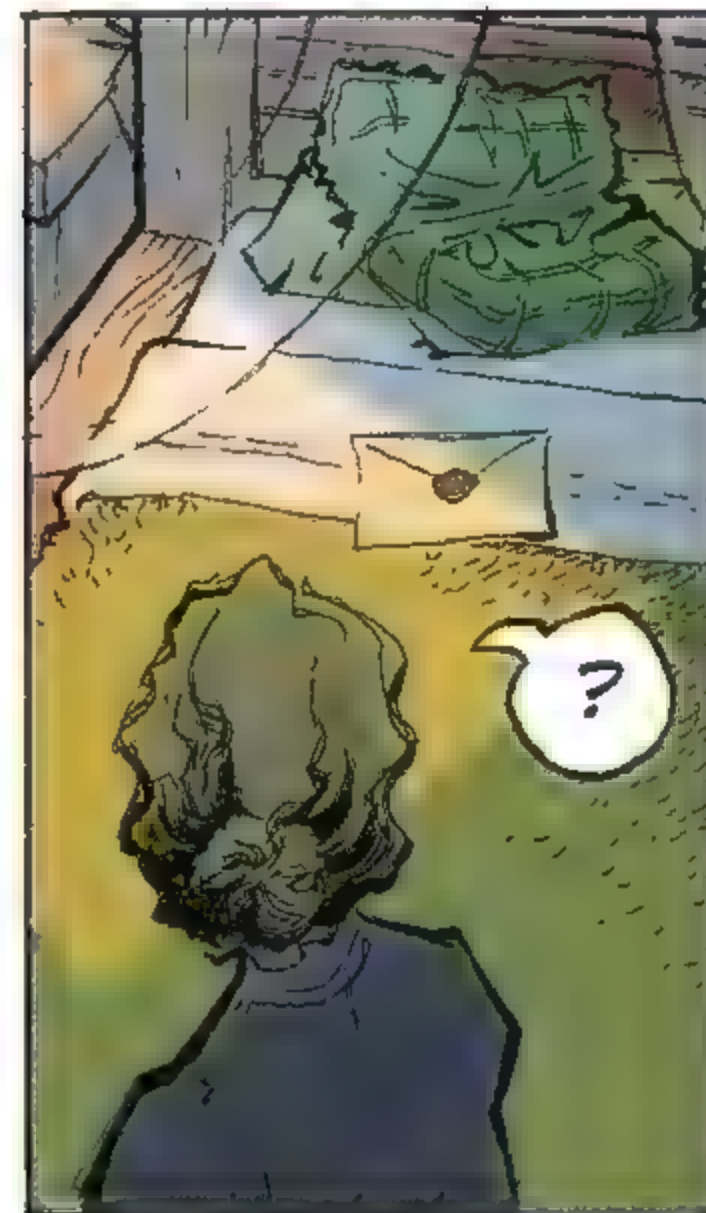
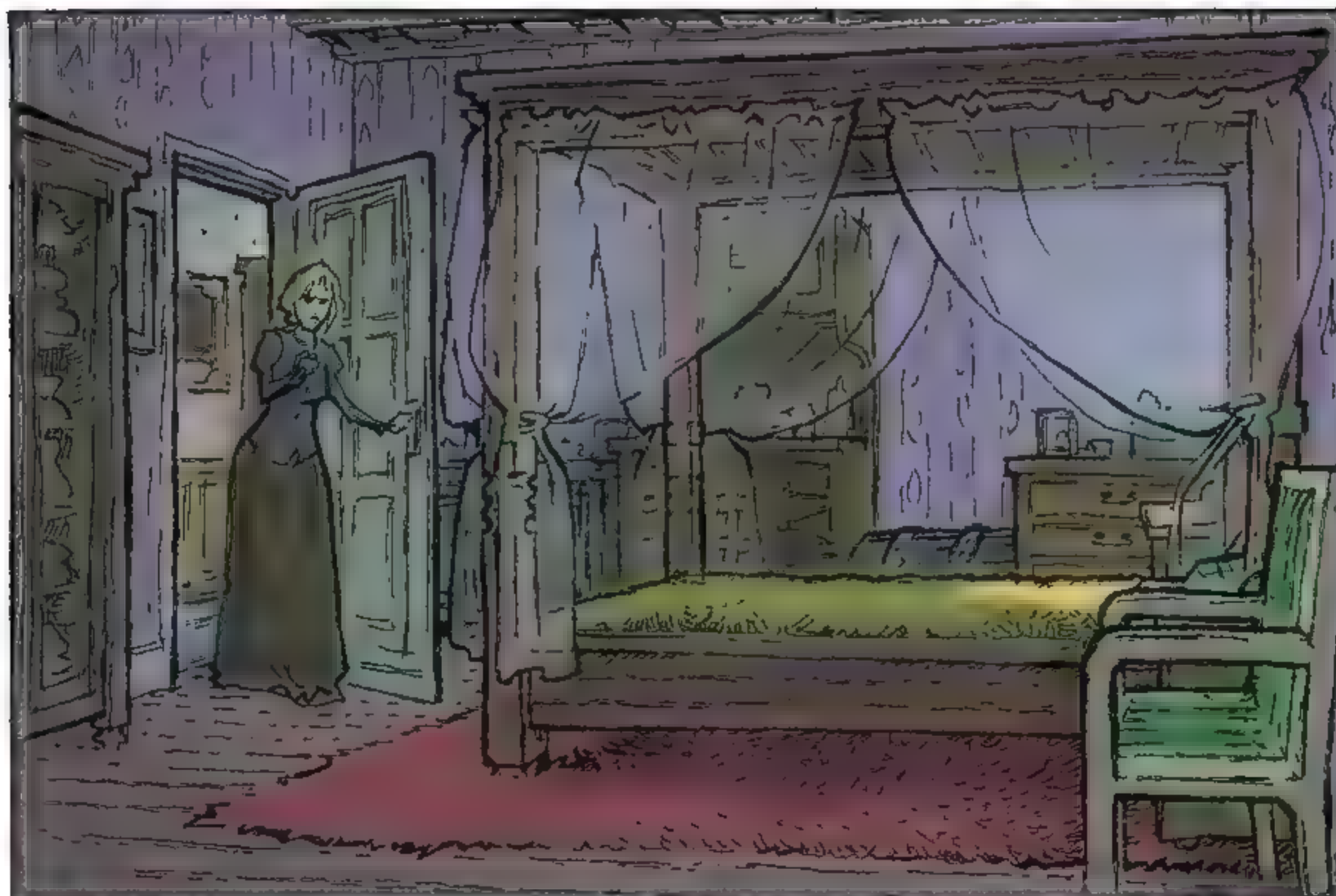
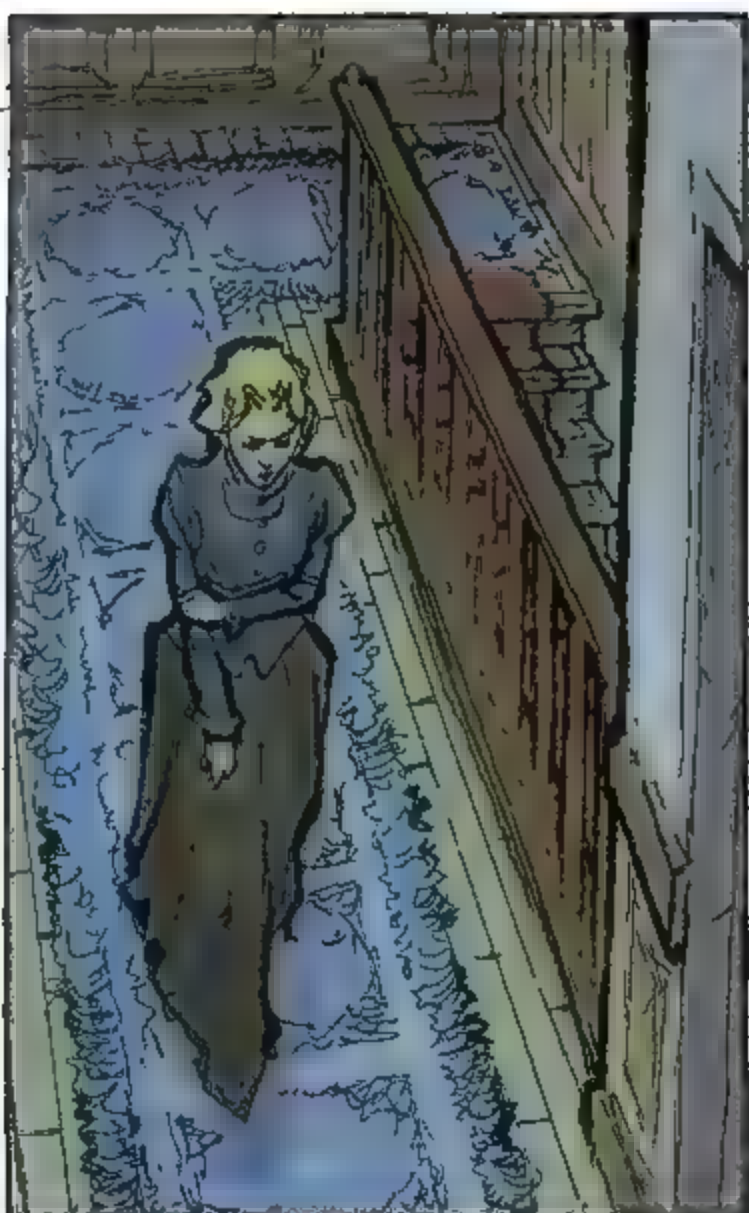
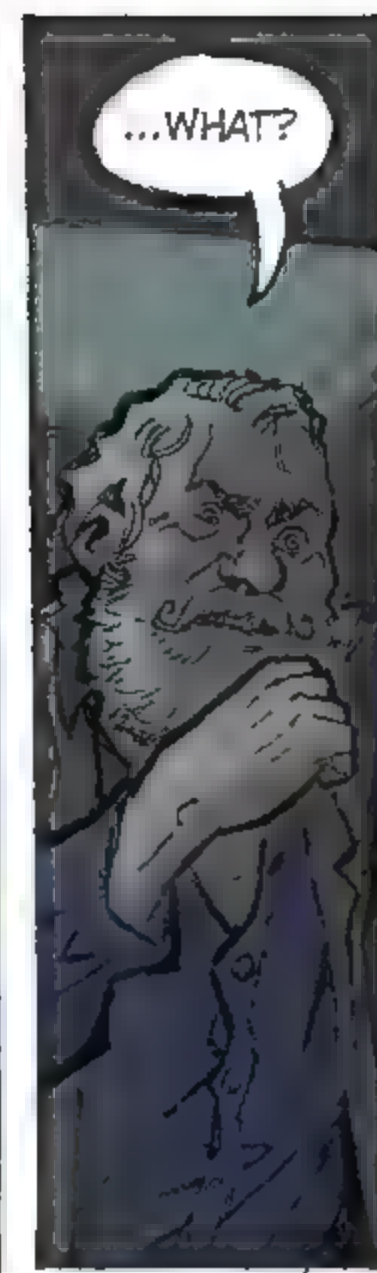
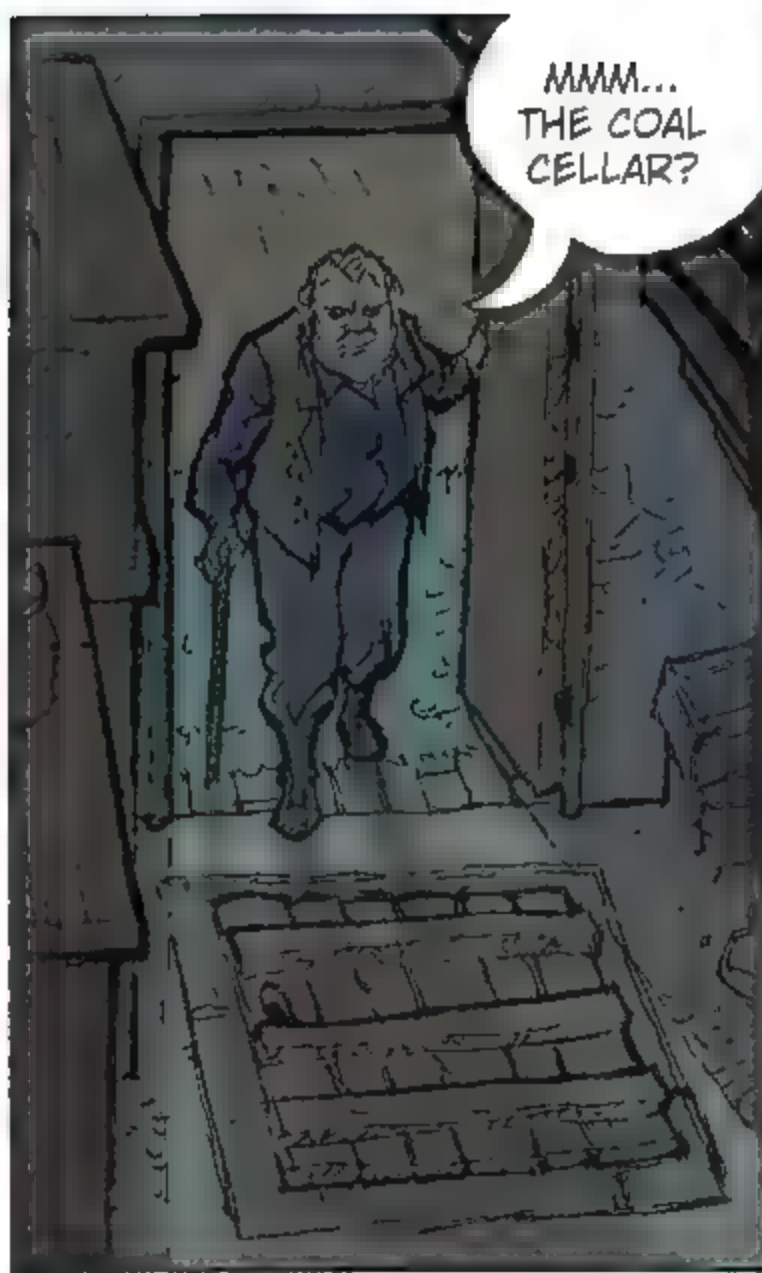
THEY DIDN'T FIND OUR FRIEND.



MY COMPANIONS AND I DID THE SAME YESTERDAY MORNING... NOTHING YET FOR THE MOMENT. THERE ARE SO MANY DEAD AND MISSING, AND WHAT HAVE WE FOUND? A CHAPEL AND A SARCOPHAGUS...







My dear Eleanor,

Do you remember what I told you a few days ago? I'm immensely fond of you. Undoubtedly, you are the person I cherish the most in the world. But I know that you are too straight, too honest to accept the man I became.



You consider me dead at the moment.

Rest assured, I'm fine.

And you deserve the truth.



The hunt for Alexander's treasure proved to be a deadly game, full of illusions and betrayals.

In my defence, I had never imagined that things would go so far.

At the beginning,
I simply
planned to get
my hands on
the manuscript
of Cyrene and
access the tomb
alone, leaving
the four of you
to dig in
the chapel...



And then Ferdinand and Antonin got involved.

They had doubts about my loyalty, and
I had one of the papyri in my possession.

I had no other choice than to eliminate them from the party.



I'm not a criminal by nature,
God is my witness, I had carried
fatal blows before even thinking...



...and instant
of despair and
everything was
finished.

Their bodies are in the coal
cellar, I have not had time
to give them a decent
burial...



When the group was in possession of the first
fragment of the manuscript, I was obliged to work
for common cause, especially with the arrival
of Towerton in the race.



I had hoped,
thanks to my
trusted men,
to steal the
body and
treasure of
Alexander
from you.

To do this, I needed to remove
Lazarus, who was a little too
curious for my taste.



He had one major flaw. He
didn't play a fair game
with you.

By revealing his
intentions, I moved
your suspicions
away from me and
removed a dangerous
competitor.



Towerton's desperate move to
arrive first definitely deprived
me of a large part of the
coveted treasure.



But I was able to put Alexander's
mummy under cover on a ledge.



This morning, I returned
to search for my reward
among the rubble.



In the end,
I think
I've deserved
what I
have.



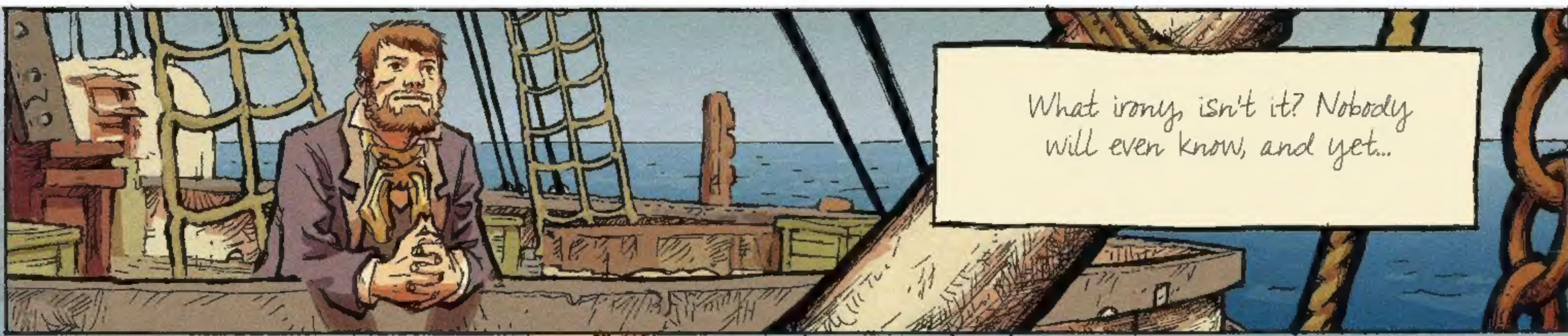
Don't judge me too harshly, my dear, I didn't do
all this for my glory.



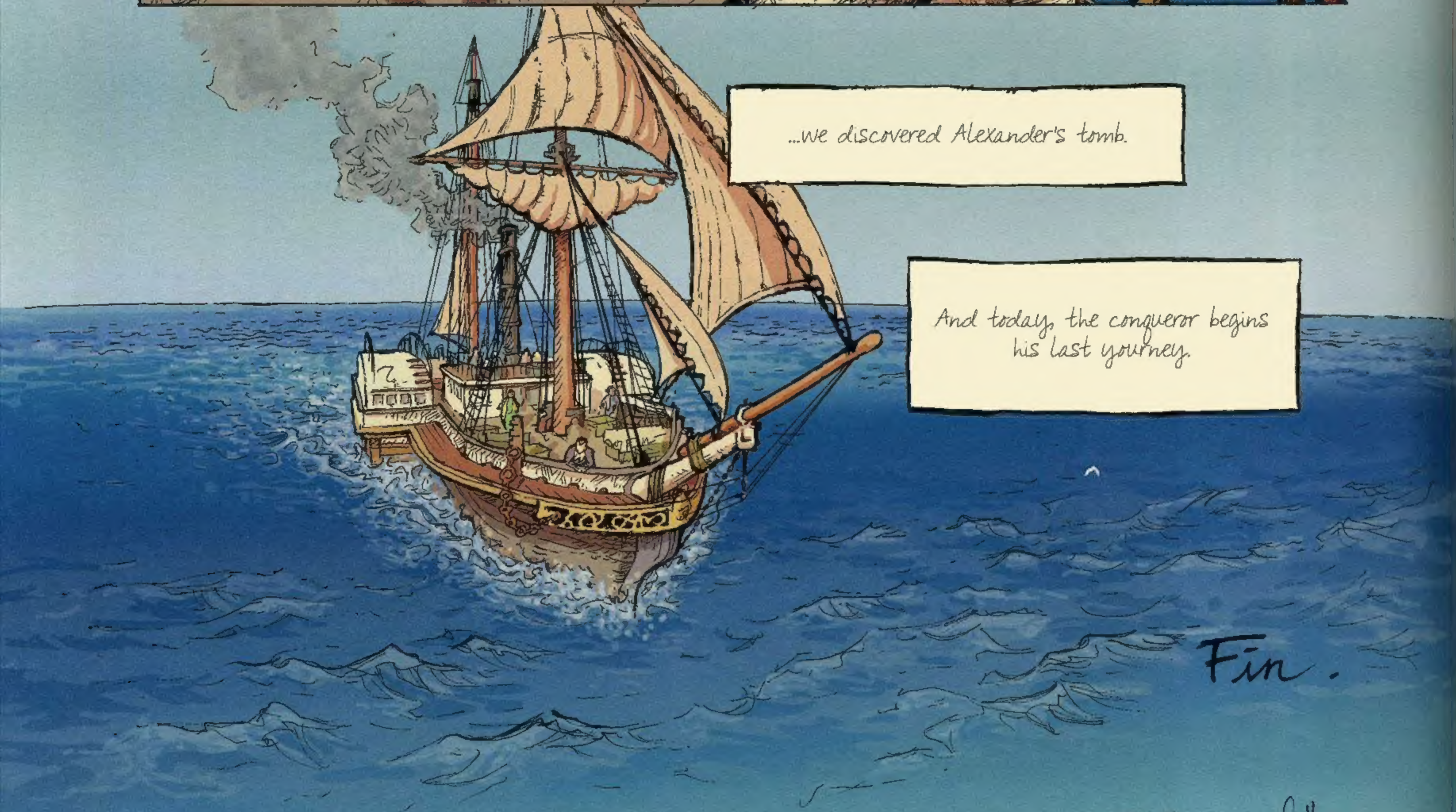
My father has ruined
the game last year.



My family was
in need of my
talents. Many
wealthy collectors
will be interested.



What irony, isn't it? Nobody
will even know, and yet...



...we discovered Alexander's tomb.

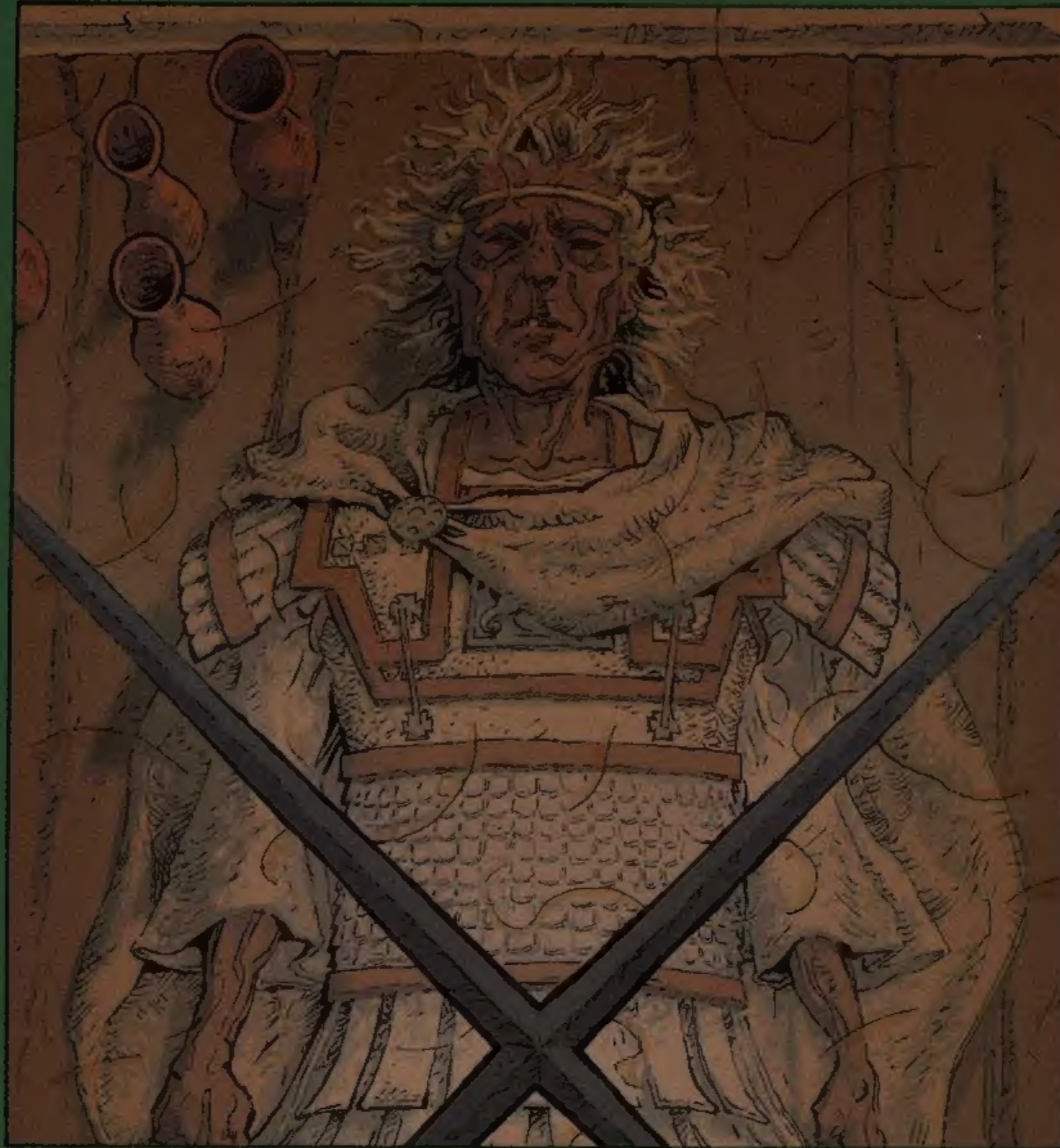
And today, the conqueror begins
his last journey.

Fin.

Edison Laine



ALEXANDER'S TOMB



Out of the monastery's collapsed basement, Charles, Lazarus, Maxime and Eleanor are again in the race. They still need to free Louise who has been taken hostage by the Englishman Towerton.

Lazarus manages to get her out of trouble and the group resumes to search for Alexander's tomb. But a wind of suspicion is blown on the young man. He wants to take the treasure!

Left underground, they discover the graves of Cleopatra and Mark Antony, but time is running out. Towerton is also searching in his more violent way, with dynamite...

ISBN : 978-2-7560-2334-2



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CODE PRIX : DE25 5498910